



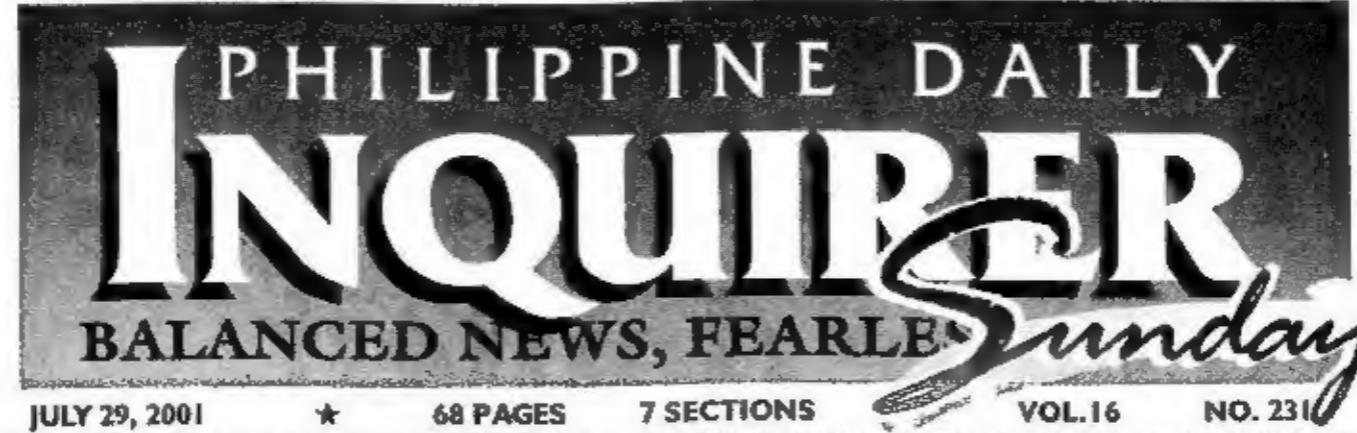
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TODAY  
IN THE

Controversial lawyers Rene Saguisag, Raymond Fortun, Salvador Panelo and Oliver Lozano state their cases



## Nene to GMA: Testify

Desierto starts probe of bribery scandal

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC,  
PHILIP C. TUBEZA  
AND ARMAND N. NOCUM

OPPOSITION senators are keen on getting the written depositions of two women—President Macapagal-Arroyo and her longtime friend and former correspondence secretary Veronica “Bing” Rodrigo—to shed light on Rodrigo’s allegation that First Gentleman Mike Arroyo took a bribe in connection with two vetoed telecommunications franchise bills.

At the same time, on the orders of the President, the Ombudsman has started a preliminary inquiry into the charges against Arroyo, who has denied accepting any money and, according to Ms Macapagal, even proposed that he be officially investigated so “the truth will come out.”

Senate Minority Floor leader Aquitino Pimentel Jr. wants Ms Macapagal to disclose the findings of her own internal investigation into the controversy revolving around her vetoes of the franchise bills.

Even though the vetoes are still

NENE/ A13



THE ORPHANED Jayson Banogan remembers President Macapagal-Arroyo’s promises well. His grandmother Anacieta, now serving as his mother and father, hopes that he will not go the way of Mang Pandoy.

EDWIN BACASMAS

### Boy’s mom was ‘labandera’ named Gloria

BY CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA  
AND JULIET L. JAVELLANA

ONE of President Macapagal-Arroyo’s three “Payatas boys” is hoping that she will be his “Nanay Gloria” and keep her promises like his late mother did.

Jayson Vann Banogan, 10, remembers well what the President said last Monday in her State

of the Nation Address: “Sabi po niya, itaga ko raw po sa bato, turuparin niya yung mga pangako niya (She said, etch it in stone, she will fulfill her promises).”

And he believes her.

Jayson lost his mother, also named Gloria and a labandera (washerwoman), his father Charlie and his baby brother Justin in the fatal garbage landslide in July last year in

Payatas, Quezon City.

When his mother was alive, he said, she promised him many things—a new toy, a new pair of shoes, a visit to the park—and usually delivered.

Imagine his excitement when the President offered to fulfill the wish he had written on the paper boat he later set to float down the Pasig

BOY’S MOM/ A13

Pimentel won’t honor moratorium on politicking

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA  
AND ARMAND N. NOCUM

SENATE Minority Floor Leader Aquilino Pimentel is not about to pull his punches despite President Macapagal-Arroyo’s request for a moratorium on political intramurals.

“If you can’t stand the heat, get out of the kitchen,” he said yesterday at the weekly forum at the Sulo Hotel in Quezon City, in response to the President’s dig at the opposition for criticizing the promises she made in her State of the Nation Address.

Pimentel said the opposition could not simply keep quiet in the face of irregularities. “(Her request is) OK in general terms, but what about the specifics? Apparently, we won’t be able to accede to that,” he said.

Pimentel also went into detail in reaction to the President’s statement that her critics had no alternatives to her programs to solve the country’s problems and ease the plight of the poor.

“In gambling, Ms President, we learned that illegal gambling—jueteng—is strong in Pampanga,” he said for starters in his weekly program yesterday over Radio Mindanao Network. “We should be able to put an end to that. It is your home province. We should show that we are sincere in these things.”

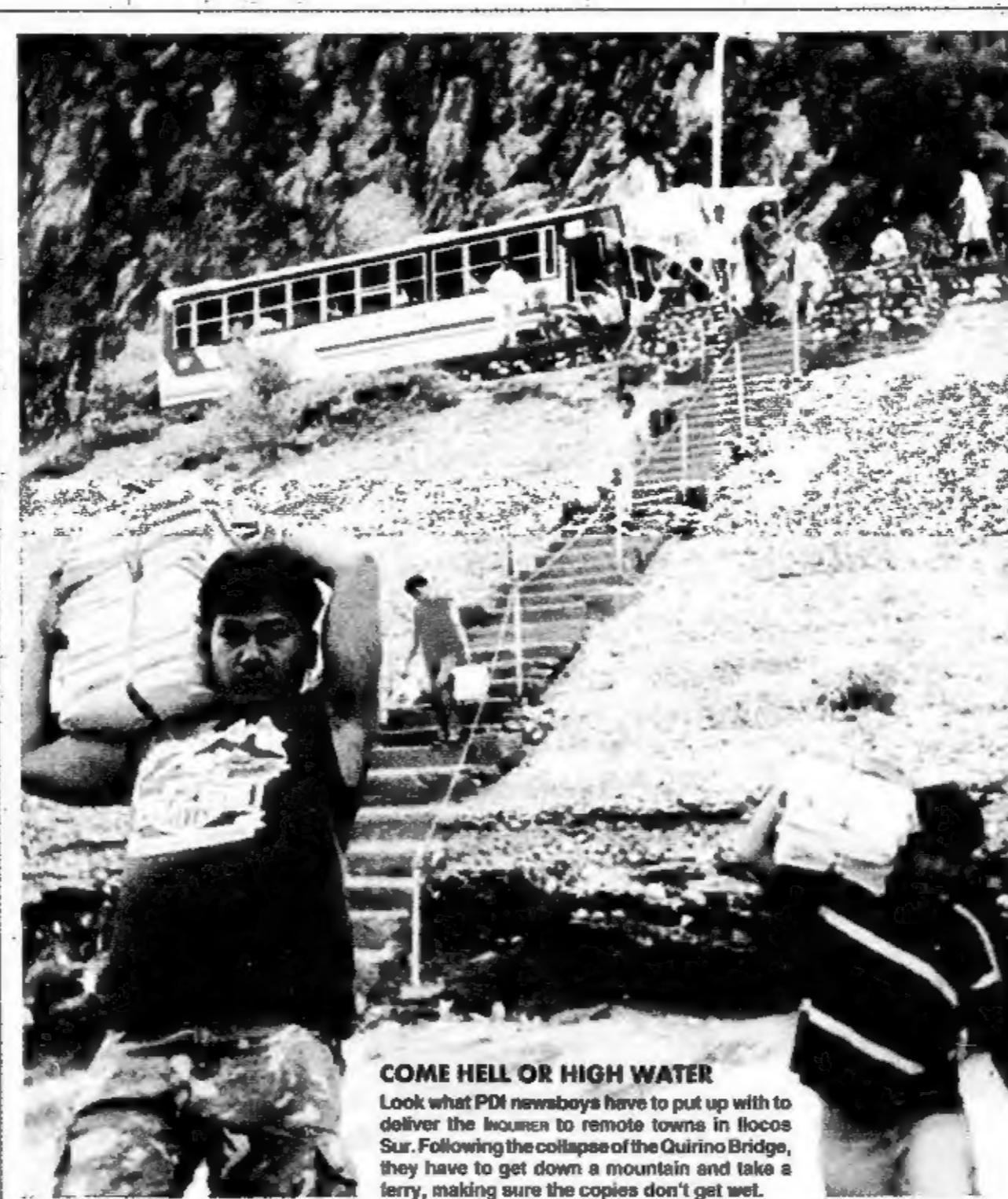
According to Pimentel, the President should bear down hard on suspected gambling lord Rodolfo “Bong” Pineda despite her close friendship with the Pinedas.

“Now, this is an alternative. What we are saying is that you must enforce the law so that we may stop illegal activities,” he said. “It is not true that we have no alternative. We (do).”

Pimentel said that to effectively fight corruption, the President should equally apply the law against everyone.

He said the government should go after grafters, “whoever they are, be they near you or far from you, kumare, kumpare—they should be

PIMENTEL/ A13



#### COME HELL OR HIGH WATER

Look what PDI newsboys have to put up with to deliver the Inquirer to remote towns in Ilocos Sur. Following the collapse of the Quirino Bridge, they have to get down a mountain and take a ferry, making sure the copies don’t get wet.

Boy with brain tumor invited as JAL guest on Dream Express

BY TJ BURGONIO

MOISES “Moy” Tenorio, a boy with a brain tumor who dreams of becoming a pilot, is becoming the darling of the airlines.

The 12-year-old boy, whose story has moved some people in the airline industry, has received an invitation from Japan Airlines (JAL) to be a guest at the Thursday inaugural of its “Dream Express,” a specially designed Boeing 747-400 jet with a Walt Disney theme.

Moy will surely be thrilled with the plane, painted outside and decorated inside with Disney characters as part of JAL’s promotion of Disney’s newest theme park in Tokyo, airline managers said.

JAL managers admitted being moved by an INQUIRER report and its accompanying photo of Moy viewing planes on July 17, so they invited him to the inaugural at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

“We thought he’d love to go aboard this aircraft, which is not an ordinary one. So we decided to get him on that plane to give him a double treat,” said Pin Pascual, JAL’s assistant manager for passenger sales, who had read the story while on her way to an airline meeting to discuss the guest list.

“Tuwang-tuwa siya. (He was very happy),” Dr. Bena Tenorio said of her younger brother’s reaction to the invitation.

Moy, who is fascinated with planes, has been invited to roam the aircraft, visit the cockpit and meet the in-flight crew, who will also be donning Disney badges, Junichi Maki, JAL’s senior manager of passenger sales and administration, said in a letter.

The jet is scheduled to arrive in Manila on Wednesday night and fly back to Narita the next day.

Later Thursday, Moy will find out the results of his radiation therapy at the Makati Medical

BOY/ A13



# OFWs told: Stay abroad

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo warned the millions of Filipinos working overseas that the country was not yet ready to absorb them and that they should continue working abroad.

"Our country is having a hard time now. Jobs are hard to come by. I am sad to say that is the reality today," Ms Macapagal said in an open forum aired live on ABS-CBN television.

Speaking in telephone hook-up to a Filipino woman working abroad, the President conceded that opportunities here were not very bright considering an economic slowdown caused by domestic and overseas developments.

"Jobs here are difficult to find and we are depending on the people outside the country. If you can find work there, and send money to your relatives here, then perhaps you should stay there," she said.

"For now, sad to say, that's about it," Arroyo said, adding "the reality is that for now and many years to come, OFWS (overseas Filipino workers) will still be a major part of the economy."

There are about five million Filipinos working overseas and the money they remit to their relatives at home is

a major source of foreign exchange for the country.

Ms Macapagal remarked that income from abroad—including these remittances, increased by 25 percent this year although she did not give figures.

With an unemployment rate of 13.3 percent as of April, many Filipinos, including college graduates, find that they can earn much more working overseas as seamen, laborers, housemaids, nannies, entertainers, construction workers, technicians and office employees.

Ms Macapagal said the government was planning to expand its hiring of teachers in local schools and was trying to lure back many of the trained teachers who have gone to places like Hong Kong to work as maids.

She also said that the government and the private sector were working together to implement an international project to improve the country's image in order to attract more foreign investors.

The project will be jointly financed by the government and the private sector, she said without giving figures.

APP

## Gloria vows to push drive vs Abu Sayyaf

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday vowed to push through with an operation to crush the Abu Sayyaf extremist group even as more sympathizers of the kidnapping band surrendered or were captured.

She made the threat as the latest Abu Sayyaf kidnapping crisis, involving 19 Filipinos and two Americans, entered its third month.

Brushing aside criticism of her mass arrests of alleged Abu Sayyaf sympathizers, the President said: "This is war and if we wish to end the Abu Sayyaf problem, then we really have to act."

In an interview with ABS-CBN television, Ms Macapagal defended the detention of over a hundred suspected Abu Sayyaf sympathizers this month, saying that halting the arrests would just prolong the problem.

"We really have to bite the bullet despite the accusations against us (and) fix this problem once and for all," she said.

The President denied that they were arresting people without a warrant, saying that the arrests had been carried out in accordance with the law.

She stressed that "the important thing is that the prosecution (of the Abu Sayyaf) will be quick," adding that she had also sent a top team of government prosecutors to the south to charge those arrested.

Another suspected Abu Sayyaf member identified as Ammar Latip also surrendered.

## RP-made coconut dessert recalled

WASHINGTON—A Maryland company is recalling more than 30,000 jars of coconut and sweet sugar palm because the products contain excessive levels of sulfites not listed on the label.

In an announcement issued Friday, Eastland Food Corp. of Columbia, Maryland said it was recalling 1,600 cases of New Foods-brand macapuno strings and 680 cases of New Foods sweet sugar palm. There are 24 jars of the product in each case.

Government testing showed that the food contained excessive levels of sulfites not listed on the label. Sulfites can cause severe or life-threatening reactions in people who have an allergy or severe sensitivity to the chemical.

Stuart Schwager, representing Eastland, said the two products were distributed to supermarkets and stores east of the Mississippi River after Jan. 1, 2000. He said Eastland is calling the stores to which the products were distributed and sending written notices of the recall.

The products are packaged in 12-ounce, clear glass jars with wraparound labels with an oval picture of a bowl containing the product. A rectangular box above the oval bears the name of the product manufacturer, New Foods International Corp. of the Philippines.

Schwager said there have been no reports of illness caused by the products.

Macapuno strings are made from the meat of the macapuno coconut, which grows in the Philippines. Sweet sugar palm is an Asian dessert fruit.

Eastland initiated the recall after government testing showed that the macapuno strings contained 10.9 milligrams of sulfites per serving, and the sugar palm product contained 7.7 milligrams of sulfites per serving. Health authorities say that sulfites in excess of 10 milligrams per serving can pose a severe, life-threatening hazard to people sensitive to the chemical.

AP

## GMA hints at running for presidency in 2004

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo, installed by a popular uprising in January, hinted yesterday she might run for the presidency in 2004.

Asked about her plans for the next presidential election, she replied: "All I can say is I will do what is right."

"I will do my best and God will take care of the rest including what he wants me to do in

2004," Ms Macapagal told ABS-CBN television. By law, presidents are limited to a single six-year term.

However, Ms Macapagal was not elected president but was installed by a popular uprising that toppled her predecessor, Joseph Estrada, amid a growing corruption scan-

dal. This makes her eligible to run again.

The opposition fears that she will use the remaining years of her term to enhance her image and strengthen her position so that she will easily win the 2004 elections.

APP

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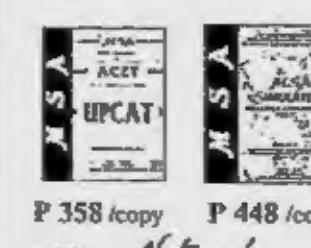
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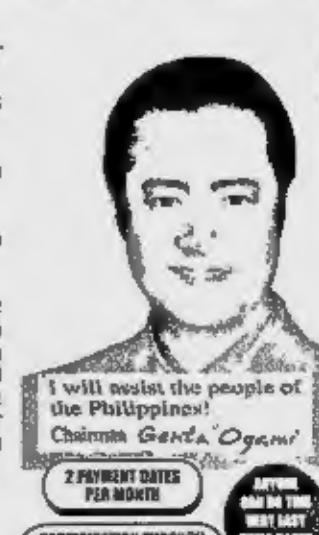
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## OPINION

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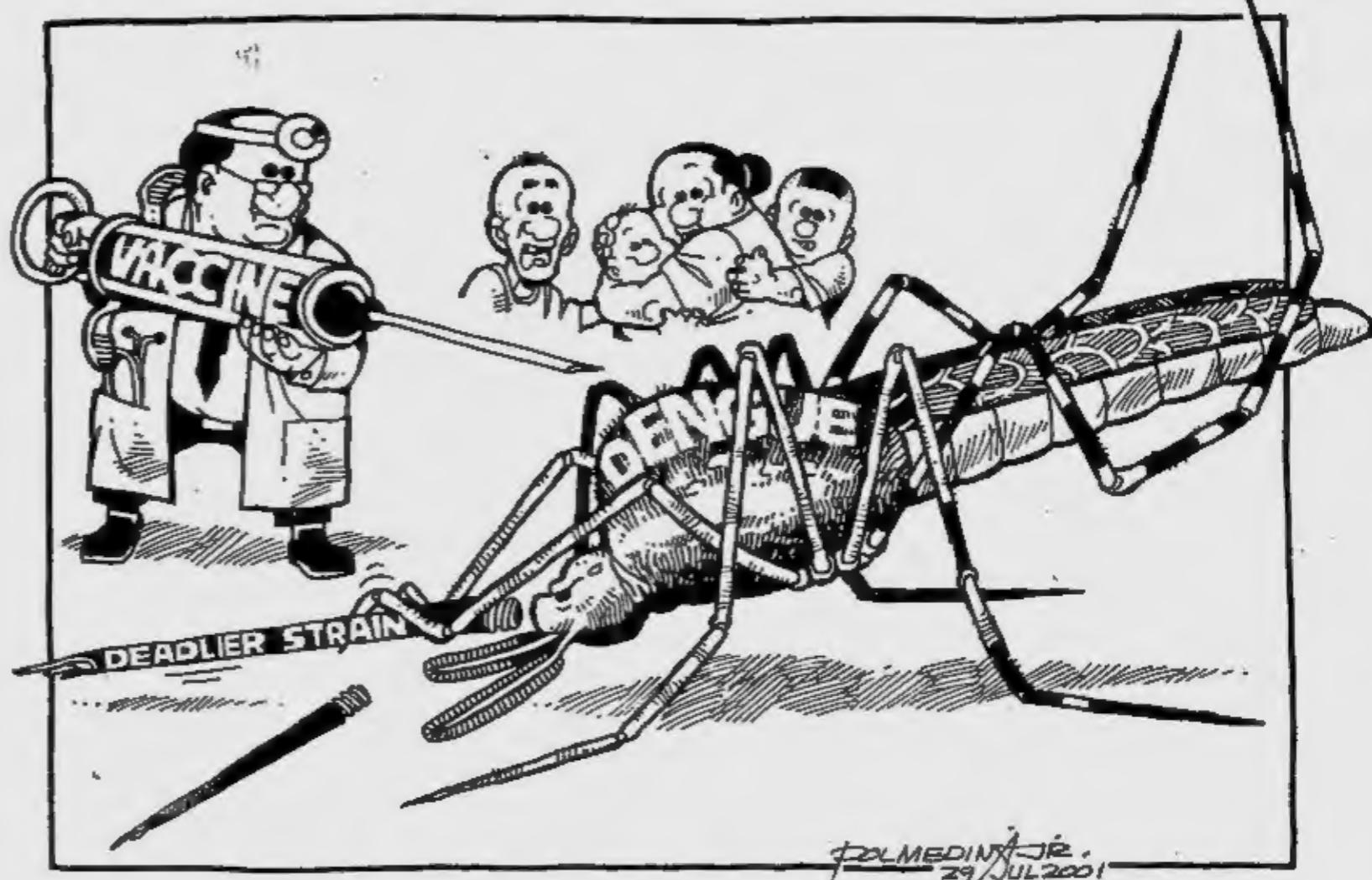
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POL MEDINA JR.  
29 JUL 2001

## Subtraction

THE BASIC idea behind the proposed tax cuts is easy enough to understand. They will put more money in our pockets; they will free up more money for investments. Seen in this way, arguing against them becomes almost unpatriotic.

The proposed tax cuts for individual taxpayers would constitute "the biggest tax relief ever given by (a) government to the average Filipino wage earner,"

Rep. Joey Salceda, Congress' resident economist, said the other day. He estimates that wage earners will enjoy total tax relief amounting to as much as P28 billion.

Indeed, the tax reform proposals crafted by the Department of Finance—to implement gross income taxation; to streamline income tax brackets from seven to four; to reduce income tax obligations of both individuals and corporations, allowing those who earn P75,000 a year or less to be exempted from paying taxes at all—have already been embraced by administration stalwarts in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Sen. Ralph Recto has welcomed the proposed tax reforms, saying these would likely comprise the first bill the 12th Congress will pass.

In the House, the chair of the committee on ways and means, Rep. Julio Ledesma, waxed optimistic about the passage of a bill that has yet to be filed. As a sign that he meant business, he promised that the same technical working group that worked on the controversial power reform bill would handle the tax reform bill, too.

"Once we receive [the draft], it will be put at the top of the totem pole," Ledesma said. "We're going to work fast here."

Not so fast, congressman. Only the supply side of the equation is clear. The demand side requires more explanation.

Granted, reducing tax obligations will put more money in our tattered wallets. The tax reform measures then assume, perhaps with some justification, that we will use this additional income to consume more of the goods we need (and even those we don't), thus stimulating a boost in consumer spending. This should be good news for the economy, but as our boom-bust economic history reminds us, consumption-led growth is never for the long term.

What the country needs is investment-led growth. Will the tax cuts—the measure proposes to reduce corporate income tax from 32 percent to as low as 26, 21 or 20 percent—actually stimulate investments?

This is where the government's arithmetic starts to get murky.

## Addition

THE MACAPAGAL administration wants to implement the tax cuts at a time when the country has not yet recovered from the deficit spending that defined the Estrada regime. It is looking at a budget deficit of P145 billion this year, and perhaps P130 billion next year.

It is not, to put it mildly, a position of strength.

Even assuming, for the sake of argument, that the new corporate income tax schedule will encourage more businessmen to invest in expansion or growth activities or entice those operating in the underground economy to surface (and thus pay taxes), the anticipated spike in investments will not come immediately.

Former Economic Planning Secretary Felipe Medalla, one of Estrada's economic managers, estimates that it would take three to five years before a shift to a new tax base will result in additional revenues for the government. Salceda thinks the proposed corporate tax measure will prove to be "revenue-neutral"—the losses canceling out the gains in the short term. Representatives of big business say the move might be a "risky change."

Factor in the government's deficit, and things may go from risky to dangerous. The tax cuts may be popular, but they may also widen the gap between what the government earns and what it spends.

Tax cuts were at the heart of so-called Reaganomics, the economic philosophy that directed government fiscal strategy in the United States in the 1980s. The result was massive deficits, reaching hundreds of billions of dollars. Won't the same thing happen here?

The prudent thing to do may be to wait for that time when the government enjoys a budget surplus, to negotiate the change from a position of strength.

## Like Caesar's wife

SEPARATE  
OPINIONIsagani  
A. Cruz

SEN. Panfilo Lacson must be a really unflappable person if he is not bothered by the charges that have been filed against him. Perhaps he's just putting up a bold front. The accusations of Angelo Mawmaw, a.k.a. Ador, and, worse, of Ramon Tufo, are so serious that they cannot be simply flicked off like a pesky fly.

The charges range from larceny to kidnapping to murder. There are even suggestions of David and Bathsheba in Lacson's relations with his beautiful wife. The details of the killings attributed to him are chilling and almost unbelievable. That tittle about the Patek Philippe watch is also intriguing. They may not necessarily be true but they somehow have the ring of truth.

What makes the accusations of Ador worthy of attention if not credence is the simple fact that he has submitted to two polygraph examinations and has reportedly passed both. By contrast, Lacson has doggedly rejected Ador's challenge to undergo a similar test, to prove who of them is lying. Lacson's evasive excuses have only strengthened Ador's credibility.

Tufo is practically goading Lacson to sue him for libel, but so far it's all quite on the other front. Lacson probably thinks that losing his cool would only add fuel to the fire and is hoping that the ruckus will eventually die a natural death. Fat chance. Tufo is bent on proving his charges, in court if he is tried for libel or before the Senate blue ribbon committee.

As far as I know, Tufo has never been convicted of violating the libel laws he has skirted often enough. I suppose it's because he has the goods on his targets. (My son Celso represented him in one case, which was subsequently withdrawn by the complainant who realized it was a mistake.) Tufo is the kind of person who makes sure his gun is loaded before he fires.

His hope that Lacson may be investigated by his peers in the Senate is problematical. He will have to deal not with the rules of evidence but the force of *pakikisama* in that exclusive club. When I suggested last year that Sen. Teresa Oreta be investigated by the blue ribbon committee for her apparent financial interest in a government contract, its chair then, Sen. Aquilino Pimentel,

said this could not be done without an authorizing resolution from the Senate. To my knowledge, that resolution has yet to be filed.

Considering the gravity of the charges against their colleague, I hope the members of the Senate will see fit to call for Lacson's probe. They have investigated far less earth-shaking matters in the past, like the escapades of the so-called Brunei beauties, the non-admission of a student by a Catholic school because of her sextuplet pregnancy, and even the making of *taho*.

Each House of Congress may discipline any of its members for disorderly behavior and suspend or expel him by a two-thirds vote. In *Alejandrino v. Quezon*, 46 Phil. 83, an appointive senator was suspended for attacking with a cane a colleague who had questioned his credentials. In *Osmena v. Pendatun*, 109 Phil. 863, the petitioner was practically expelled for making accusations against President Garcia that he failed or refused to substantiate.

Those offenses are minor compared to the serious charges against Senator Lacson that deserve, at the very least, a thorough and impartial probe. And it is no argument that investigating him with a view to his possible punishment will defy the will of the millions of Filipinos who voted for him. That same gambit did not work for his idol and chum, who was not a mere senator but the President of the Philippines.

It does Senator Lacson no good to simply ignore the accusations and dismiss them as old hat earlier satisfactorily explained. Earlier is not today. Whatever immunities he might have enjoyed before are no longer effective under the present dispensation even with his current powerful position. The Kuratong Baleleng massacre, which was swept under the rug during the past admini-

stration, is being reinvestigated, and more cases are planned to be exhumed.

Lacson claims Senior Supt. Reynaldo Berroya and Col. Victor Corpus are orchestrating the charges against him, but this may only be a diversionary tactic. It could be a smokescreen to prevent a closer look into what is unquestionably a challenge to his character and reputation. The many reaction to such challenge is to meet it squarely instead of resorting to irrelevancies. The relevant question is not the source or instigator of the charges but their validity.

In any case, Ador has himself come forward and staked his liberty and whatever he owns on the veracity of his accusations. Neither Berroya nor Corpus will be liable if Ador is found to be lying. As for Tufo, he has made his own detailed charges on his own responsibility and appears in fact to be eager to prove them at the proper forum. There is no claimed agent provocateur in his case.

Lacson's reputation is far from immaculate if one remembers, at least, his membership in the martial law team of intelligence agents known and dreaded for their torture and salvage operations. Two of their leaders have been ambushed by the NPA in revenge executions. The charges made by Ador and Tufo would bolster Lacson's notoriety as a ruthless criminal disdainful of human rights.

If Lacson does not choose to sue his detractors or the Senate blue ribbon committee refuses to investigate him, there is still the Ombudsman, who is obliged under the Constitution to investigate, on his own or on complaint by any person, any act or omission of any public official that appears to be illegal. When proper, the corresponding information should then be filed with the Sandiganbayan for speedy trial and decision. This is a duty Aniano Desierto cannot ignore or evade just because Lacson is now a senator.

The dispute between Senator Lacson and his accusers is not a private matter. It affects the right of the people to expect and demand that their public servants, of whatever degree or status, be persons of sterling character, of unsullied integrity and, like Caesar's wife, above suspicion.

## My dear brother/sister...

## MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry  
M. Orbos, SVD

LAST July 22, we held a Bingo for the Missions at the covered courts of the Christ the King Seminary in Quezon City. Close to 4,000 people came together to respond to the appeal of our ex-SVD seminarians (XVD) to help propagate the rosary devotion in the missions. I am sure all of the people who joined the bingo prayed to God our Father to win the P100,000 first prize. How busy the computers in heaven must have been. In the end, three people won the first prize. Does that mean that they were the ones who deserved it more? Did they pray more, or more rightly than the others? Is there a formula so that we can secure a sure answer to our petitions and prayers? Questions. Questions.

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Who are we to know God's thoughts? What we know of Him though is what we have heard from Jesus, His Son. In today's Gospel (Lk. 11, 1-13), Jesus gives us a clue and coaches us on how to pray to God our Father. Basically, what Jesus is saying is that God is a loving Father and we His children can call on Him for our needs. We must continue to persevere in prayer, and be confident that God will answer our prayers, in His own way, and in His own time.

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Have you ever prayed so hard for something, and it was not granted unto you? I did. In 1987, I prayed so much to God not to take my father yet. I was asking God for just a few more years for my father to live. After all, he was a good man and he could help many more people. I even reminded the Lord that I was his priest who has left everything to follow Him. I thought that we would count from our side.

Well, none of that counted. In the end, Papa died at the age of 65. Too soon for a good man, I thought. But not in God's eyes, and not so according to His infinite wisdom and plan. In the end, I was disappointed, resentful and hurt, but I

still surrendered and said: "You know everything. You have a reason for everything. Thy will be done!"

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The text message says: God answers all prayers. Sometimes He says "YES," and gives us what we are asking for. Sometimes He says "NO" because He wants to give us something better than what we are asking for. And sometimes, He says "WAIT" because He plans to give us the best, in His own time and in His own way.

The bottom line is that it is we who propose to God. We ask. In fact, we are encouraged to be persistent in our asking and try our very best to do our part, but in the end we must accept that it is God who disposes.

However and whatever He disposes, we must still believe that it was the best response to what we were asking for, somehow.

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If you want to know what relating to God our Father is like, listen again to that TV ad where a son calls his father and opens his heart about his desire to shift from medicine to fine arts. The son has the confidence that he is loved, and he asks. The father in turn is so full of love and understanding. Even the tone of his soothing voice is so assuring, especially at the end, when he says "Te, suportahan ka ka." For me, that captures the way we should relate and pray to God our Father.

The "Our Father" is the only prayer taught by Jesus Himself to His disciples. It captures the very heart of Jesus. But don't forget the direct implication of this prayer. If God is our Father, then we are brothers and sisters! We must love one another. We must not kill, rob, use, cheat, abuse or put down one another. We must live in peace, unity and love because we are brothers and sisters in God our Father.

In line with the "Our Father," perhaps we can turn to one another today and say: My dear brother/sister, God is our Father. May His name be hallowed. Let us work together for the coming of His Kingdom. May God help you in your daily needs. Let's work together to help those who are in need. We are all sinners. Let us forgive and stop hurting each other. And let us ask God our Father to make us strong in all our trials, and give us perseverance. In everything, may His will be done, and unto Him be the kingdom, the power and the glory now and forever. The Father loves you dear brother/sister. Me too. Amen.

The greatest joy of any father is to see his children grow and glow. Our personal note, I am happy to see the growth of the XVDs to which I'm some kind of a father. They have grown from drinking club and basketball club to a prayer group and a missioned group. What's more, even their wives and their children are now joined together by this sense of mission. I would like to sincerely thank them for their efforts for our missionaries, and I thank you all, too, for continuing to pray and support our missionaries, all for Our Father in Heaven.

A moment with the Lord:  
Lord, you are my Father. Help me not to forget that I have brothers and sisters. Amen.

## Rent-seeking franchise

THE TERM "rent-seeking franchise" refers to a government permit that allows a favored group to earn profits without adding real value to the economy. Often, a rent-seeking franchise establishes a monopoly, either legal or *de facto*. The legislative franchise granted to the Philippine Communication Clearinghouse Inc. (PCCI) qualifies as a rent-seeking franchise.

The PCCI's Articles of Incorporation state that the "primary purpose of this corporation is to engage in the provision of clearinghouse services to communications and gaming entities." The PCCI's legislative franchise provides that the PCCI can establish and maintain "wire and/or wireless telecommunications systems" throughout the Philippines.

In a letter to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo dated March 23, 2001, the PCCI sought the government's support for the PCCI's plan of "establishing a clearinghouse for the telecommunications industry." On March 27, Deputy Executive Secretary Waldo Flores endorsed this letter to Chair Eliseo Rio of the National Telecommunications Commission.

The PCCI's letter explained the clearinghouse idea in this manner: "The concept of a clearinghouse has become an important vehicle for member-institutions of a particular industry sector to engage in cooperative endeavors. The banking industry, for example, has improved its delivery of services to the general public with the setting up of a clearinghouse and ATM-sharing bank consortia. In the same manner, a clearinghouse for the telecom industry would put in place a mechanism that would address concerns and provide solutions to issues such as interconnection and traffic management, easy customer access, seamless connectivity and other value-added services."

A telecom clearinghouse is indeed laudable, and should be pursued by the government and the telecom industry. The idea, however, that a third party like the PCCI, which provides neither landline nor cellular services, should own this clearinghouse is downright rent-seeking. In other countries, the telecom clearinghouse is

### CROSSCURRENTS

Antonio T. Carpio



owned either by the government or by the telecom carriers themselves.

At present, interconnection among carriers is governed by bilateral agreements approved by the NTC. The carriers agree on the amount of interconnection fees and the sharing of these fees. If the PCCI is allowed to own the clearinghouse, it will charge an additional fee which will be passed on to the public. The PCCI will be an unnecessary overlay in the telecom industry, burdening the public with added cost without providing the public any added service.

The carriers should own the clearinghouse in the telecom industry, in the same way that banks own the clearinghouse in the banking industry. A telecom clearinghouse owned by the carriers does not require a legislative franchise because all their charters allow them to interconnect with one another. Similarly, the banking clearinghouse does not have its own legislative franchise because banks are empowered to settle checks among themselves subject to the rules of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

The NTC has a plan to create a clearinghouse to be owned by the telecom carriers. The clearinghouse will do exactly what the PCCI proposes to do. Under its charter, the NTC has enough powers to force the telecom carriers to organize a clearinghouse, in the same way that the Bangko Sentral, using the powers under its charter, successfully persuaded the banks to form their own clearinghouse.

By the very nature of the functions of a clearinghouse, the telecom industry can only have one clearinghouse, in the same way that the banking industry can only have one clearinghouse. A

clearinghouse is a one-stop-shop that clears and settles all transactions between and among its members. A clearinghouse, by its very nature, is a *de facto* monopoly.

Sen. Vicente Sotto III, who steered the PCCI franchise in the Senate, stated that there is nothing in the franchise that grants the PCCI a monopoly. He is correct because the PCCI franchise does not grant any legal monopoly. However, once the PCCI is allowed to own a telecom clearinghouse, it becomes a *de facto* monopoly. The PCCI's franchise is entitled "An Act Granting the Philippine Communications Clearinghouse Inc. a Franchise..." The word "clearinghouse" in the corporate name of the PCCI, as well as the primary purpose written in the PCCI's articles of incorporation, should have alerted our legislators that the PCCI wants to engage in a business that is a *de facto* monopoly.

The PCCI's franchise is like a grant of authority to a person to conduct vehicular traffic at the intersection of Ayala Avenue and Paseo de Roxas in Makati, with power to collect one peso from every vehicle that passes through the intersection. The person has not contributed to the construction or maintenance of the roads that meet at the intersection. The roads are in place and are maintained by the association of building owners in Legazpi and Salcedo Villages. At present, traffic is flowing smoothly at the intersection. What is the economic rationale for granting such person power to conduct traffic and collect fees from the public?

In the same manner, what is the economic justification for granting the PCCI the right to establish a telecom clearinghouse? President Macapagal was perfectly correct in vetoing the PCCI's rent-seeking franchise.

Incidentally, who really owns the PCCI? The minutes of the House committee on legislative franchises state that the persons named in the PCCI's articles of incorporation had sold their shareholdings to other parties. To whom, the minutes are silent and nobody seems to know. Will the real owners of the PCCI please show their faces?

## How do you solve a problem like Mike?

### AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



As US Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton discovered when she was "only" the First Lady, constituents are comfortable with the spouses of officials they elected only if they keep within the bounds of traditional, decorative roles.

So no matter their personal and professional achievements, First Ladies have historically been restricted to good works and artistic/cultural pursuits. Imelda Marcos was far more ambitious and sought a more political and then "cosmic" role, but look where that took her. Miriam Ramos promised to be a First Lady out of the mold, but even if she were a working woman all her life, she chose to focus on personal concerns: the environment and livelihood. Doktora (and now Senadora) Loi Ejercito sought relief from the cesspool of Malacañang in medical missions, parlaying the image of an empathetic First Lady and martyr wife to a new career in politics.

Mike Arroyo is the country's first First Gentleman, and so far, he's done a lackluster job of the role. Though protesting he will take on no title bigger than that of "official photographer," rumors persist about how he has thrust himself into affairs of state. Somehow, I can't see him adopting the extremely low-key and unobtrusive manner of Dennis Thatcher. The frases with Bing Rodriguez promises to be only the first of many Mike will be involved in.

SO if exile, at least until 2004, is not in the cards for Mike Arroyo, what role can and should he play as First Gentleman?

Some suggestions:

1. Close-in security. He's always hovering around her in official functions, anyway, so Mike

Arroyo can put his towering presence to good use. He should be drafted and trained by the PSG as a walking shield. If any assassin should approach menacingly or wield a knife or gun, the First Gentleman's bulk can always serve as the final defense barrier.

2. Enforcer. He certainly makes for an intimidating presence, so maybe he should be trained by an ex-PAOCTF operative on how to make people offer they can't refuse. He doesn't have Ping Lacson's schoolboy charm, but he does have the back up his verbal threats.

3. Entertainer. With so much time on his hands, the First Gentleman can be drafted to distract and entertain the countless favor-seekers, power brokers and lobbyists who daily flock to Malacañang. He can regale them with the latest rumors he's overheard during state dinners, or share the more interesting text messages he receives. If the influence peddlers are more persistent, he can take them out to videoke palaces and get them out of his wife's hair. All this he should finance out-of-pocket, though, since he can't afford to be seen being wined and dined by the slimiest characters of the land.

4. Bouncer. Before it gets too expensive, he can stand at the doorway of Malacañang and screen guests. No one will object should he deny access to anyone, since he's presumably acting on his wife's orders. Then again, this might give him more power than is safe or comfortable.

SOMEHOW, I don't see Mike Arroyo cutting ribbons, attending tea parties or hosting tête-à-têtes for Cabibet spouses with Ricky Reyes as his sidekick. He's offered free legal advice and services, but got into trouble when it was pointed out having the First Gentleman as a lawyer constituted an unfair advantage. He's no doctor, so his medical missions look no better than pathetic PR exercises. Besides, when he goes on medical missions, he has to be accompanied by security and they take up room meant for medicines and equipment.

What to do with Mike Arroyo then? I'm sorry, but exile seems the best option at the moment.

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WHICH brings us to our question of the day. What do we do with a First Gentleman?

## The hidden injuries of the poor

### PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David



can fuel explosions of rage, of self-pity and even of violence.

The appeasement of this feeling of being trapped in a situation from which there seems to be no exit has been the historic function of religion. But in recent years, it is the mass media that have played a more important role in providing a language in which these injuries of class could be harmlessly articulated and resolved. TV sitcoms and *telenovelas* have exploited the theme of the oppressed finding success in another country and coming home to redeem all past injuries. What is played out here is the same old narrative of suffering, death, resurrection and forgiveness. But the actual possibilities offered by the chance to live and work abroad, and, in the process, reinvent one's self, lead to this ancient script a plausibility that lifts it from the realm of fiction.

Going abroad is now within the reach of every Filipino, and perhaps more than any other recent development in our history, it is what has changed the future of the poor in our country. There is a parallel development in our politics however that is worth noting. The poor are also slowly finding their own voice and their own icons. The election to the presidency of Joseph Estrada in 1998 is the clearest expression of this newfound voice. Although by no means poor, Estrada is perceived as one of them in all other ways—in the way he talks and carries himself, in the vices he keeps, in his simple faith and in his rebellion against pretense in a society controlled by the idle rich.

But in societies like ours, the more basic injury is the humiliation that the poor suffer when, by the insensitive actions of others, the last shred of personal worth is taken away from them. This happens, for example, when they are unjustly accused of stealing food or money, or when people to whom they have given their unconditional loyalty ignore their desperate appeals for emergency assistance or for mercy. The result is a lingering sense of worthlessness and failure that

traditionally run by the elite is pure cinema. It is the *balikbayan* worker coming home to buy the factory of his former employer. It is the peasant's son coming home to buy the land from the cash-strapped *amo*. It is the daughter of the housemaid coming home to buy the mansion in which her mother had worked as a slave. Erap as president was the symbol not only of self-esteem restored but also of the catharsis of role reversal.

This is the stuff of *telenovelas*, but in Erap's case, success was fleeting and the downfall came quickly. Success spoiled him; he forgot his basic mission. He was not familiar with the rules of the game and he was not careful. His friends took advantage of him, and his enemies could not wait to haul him to jail.

In the eyes of the poor, Erap's failure dramatizes the ultimate social exclusion of every Filipino who has ever managed to transcend his class origins only to find the gates of high society closed. His treatment as an accused felon without rights, a role Erap acted out so adroitly during his arrest, stands for all the injustice and humiliation that the powerless go through daily in our society. If the elite could do this to anyone who had been president, they could do it to anyone who was not to their class born.

Edsa III was the baring of all these accumulated injuries of class. Politicians exacerbated these injuries by harping on the theme of social exclusion, but they did not invent them. They were there all the time, sensitive and festering like the ulcers on the face of that woman in India. All it takes for them to explode is a moment of recognition. They saw what was being done to Erap, and they recognized their own suffering. We might change the script in which their pain assumes meaning, but we can never ignore it.

This is not about Erap being restored to the presidency. This is about the Filipino poor being restored to their humanity.

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Comment to [ravid@pacific.net.ph](mailto:ravid@pacific.net.ph)

## Norway's mission of peace

OSLO—Holmenkollen Park is a small hill overlooking the city of Oslo, Norway's capital, and a very popular venue for ski jumping which attracts many tourists. Nestled on the hill's slope is more than a century-old, three-story hotel, copper-red and dragon-inspired, named after the park itself. It would have gone unnoticed by a Filipino traveler, except that it has been the venue for two rounds of peace talks between the Philippine government (GRP) and the National Democratic Front (NDF) since April.

### COMMENTARY

Natalia M.L.M. Morales

OSLO—Holmenkollen Park is a small hill overlooking the city of Oslo, Norway's capital, and a very popular venue for ski jumping which attracts many tourists. Nestled on the hill's slope is more than a century-old, three-story hotel, copper-red and dragon-inspired, named after the park itself. It would have gone unnoticed by a Filipino traveler, except that it has been the venue for two rounds of peace talks between the Philippine government (GRP) and the National Democratic Front (NDF) since April.

Norway's foray into Philippine affairs stems from the constructive diplomacy it first demonstrated in the early 1990s when it successfully facilitated the drafting of the 1993 Oslo Agreement on the Middle East involving Egypt, Israel and Palestine. Its peace mediation became a role model for quiet, unobtrusive and free-wheeling statesmanship where the protagonists get the space, minus great power intervention and excessive media attention, to work out their differences. Home to the annual Nobel Peace Prize awards, Norway's mission of peace is innate to a country with the world's highest human development index. Jennifer Schirmer of the Oslo Peace Research Institute calls it the creative culture of international cooperation, and the Norwegians are proud of that.

In the late 1990s, Norway saw it fit to play the role of an international peacemaker, a bridge builder exploring unstable areas where peace and stability are always threatened. Its politics and culture tend to lend an atmosphere that is conducive to consensus and commitment for those who are willing to submit themselves to the process of searching for peace. Sri Lanka with its long-standing Tamil problem and Guatemala with its long-term insurgency have also benefited from this Nordic concern and facility.

The Philippines, in the ongoing Oslo talks, has likewise gained a sympathetic ear and a generous sponsor, to help it resolve a long-standing conflict that stands in the way of national unity and progress.

Perhaps unknown to many Filipinos, the history of international partnership between the Philippines and Norway dates back to the time when the United Nations was created in 1945. The two countries were co-authors of a draft provision in the Dumbarton Oaks Agreement (that served as the basis for what eventually became the UN Charter) on international cultural cooperation and human rights. Filipino and Norwegian statesmen became pioneers in the conduct of UN affairs during its salad days. Norway's Trygve Lie was the first UN secretary general who laid the groundwork for the organization of the UN Secretariat. Like Carlos Romulo, who was the first Asian president of the UN General Assembly, Lie incurred the wrath of the Soviet Union when he proposed Communist China's admission to the UN. Both Romulo and Lie shared a passion for diplomatic soirees and American major league baseball, where they plotted out their next moves in the world body while watching a game. They developed a fondness for each other and special friendship. The speech in behalf of Lie's reelection as UN secretary general was delivered by Romulo himself.

These historical footnotes are useful in explaining the role being played by this distant European country in Philippine foreign affairs this time. Norway has come a long way in the world community despite its long history as a colony of other Nordic powers Denmark and Sweden for roughly 600 years. Its rejection of any concept of a union (such as the European Union) reflects its aversion to anything that may subvert its sovereignty now.

Notwithstanding its fluctuation between "isolationism" and involvement, Norway has been quite active in lessening some global inequalities. It has contributed much to the UN Development Programme and it is one of the more generous and responsible hosts to refugees from all over the world. In the mid-1980s Norwegian teachers taught their language to Vietnamese refugees in Batam awaiting their country placement.

The country is still relatively small and its population is largely homogeneous despite the influx of many nationalities now. Whether there will be a dramatic change in the coming years remains to be seen. Pakistanis comprise the majority of its foreign population (they came as "guest workers" in 1969). Soon they were followed by migrants from Turkey, Chile, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Somalia and the former Yugoslavia. Interestingly, there are a little over 5,000 Filipinos here, mostly health workers and wives of Norwegian seafarers. As of last year, there were about 100,000 immigrants, making up two and a half percent of its 4.5 million population.

The goal of Norwegian development aid has been to contribute toward making lasting improvements in the economic, social and political conditions of developing countries. Norwegian citizens pay highly for this. Almost 50 percent of their income goes to taxes. Its oil industry, which was developed in the 1960s, has generated revenues that help pay for its international commitments.

Linked to this development aid is the promotion of basic social, economic and human rights. The protection of vulnerable groups is emphasized in its foreign relations and social programs. Inevitably, this has led to its active support for the peace process, which has become the hallmark of Norway's world image.

In true diplomatic fashion, the policymakers in Oslo are reserved in assessing the chances of success of the Oslo channel vis-à-vis the Philippine peace talks. Theirs is still a wait-and-see attitude. But there is a refreshing openness toward whatever outcome the talks might produce despite the resources it is putting into the talks and the effects it might have on its reputation as a peace mediator.

Schirmer describes Norway's peace-building as "encouraging people to be more optimistic without being missionary." It is an opportunity that participants in the peace process must not waste or trivialize. The field has been sown but the harvest will be reaped only through the honest and sincere efforts of the Filipino peace process negotiators on both sides of the table. Will they rise to the challenge?

Natalia M.L.M. Morales is professor of political science at the University of the Philippines in Diliman and a trustee of the Philippine Council for Foreign Relations.

### THEY SAID

Rootless

"The city is about to lose another of its historical heritage. We have become a city without roots."

Xavier University museum curator Luis Ostique on Cagayan de Oro City's Macabambus Cave, which will be bulldozed for a road project

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## TALK OF THE TOWN

JOHN NERY, Editor

Please send feedback to [opinion@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:opinion@inquirer.com.ph)

## Was Sona 1 faithful to Edsa 2?

BECAUSE the Macapagal administration is a child of People Power, one essential question to ask in any valuation of the President's first State of the Nation Address must be: Does it reflect its parentage? Does the new government's policy address of the year do justice to the administration's origins and character?

Members of the People Power movement that installed her in office may arguably be in the best position to answer the question. We invited several sectoral or national speakers of the second Kongreso ng Mamamayang Pilipino (Komplil 2) to join the discussion; three responded.

## Good citizenship required

BY ATTY. LIWAYWAY VINZONS CHATO

IN EDSA 2, we took a stand against a corrupt President and a Congress that refused to condemn the corruption and immorality of a President, who violated his oath of office and betrayed the public trust, whose authority and mandate from the people had therefore ceased to exist. In Edsa 2, we expressed the sentiment of many in the nation that our country cannot and should not tolerate corruption, immorality and indecency in public office. Were it not for the events resulting from the corruption and immorality in high places, however, we would never have risen up in such numbers and with such disgust. Because of Edsa 2, we now have a President who embodies our ideals and our aspirations.

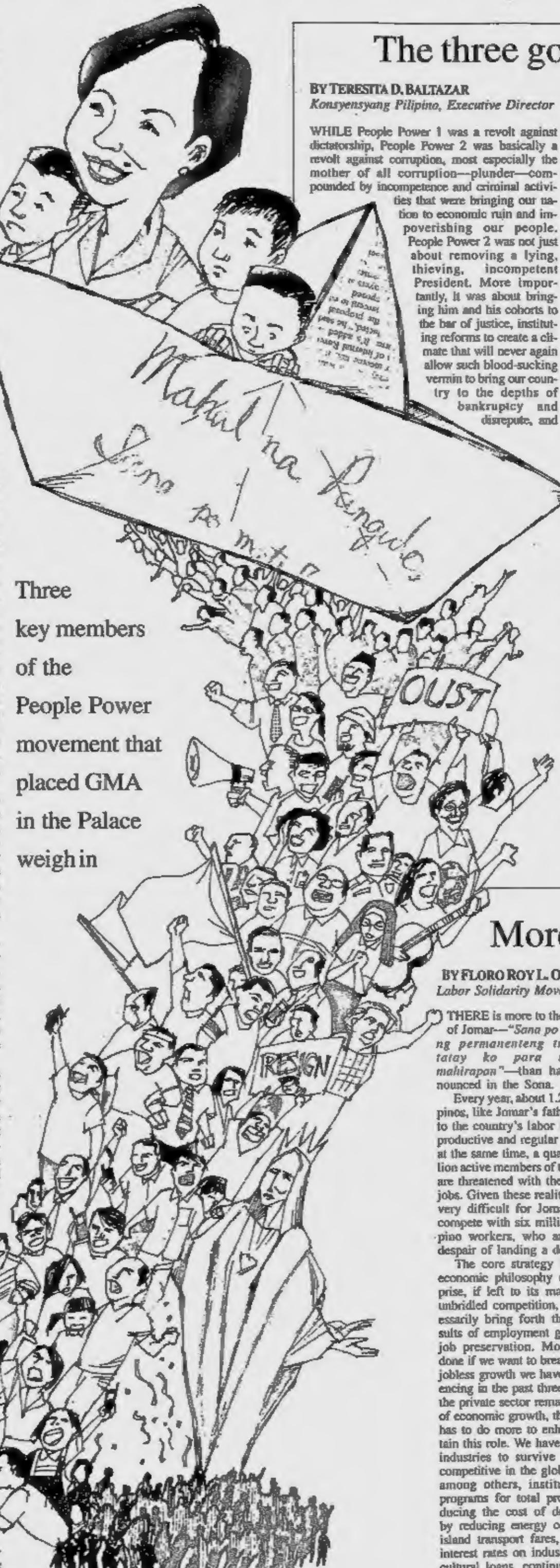
In her Sona, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo gives us the core of her vision: *Trabaho* (Jobs), *Edukasyon* (Education), *Sariling Tahanan* (A Home of One's Own), *at Pagkain sa Bawal Mesa* (Food on Every Table). She identifies the historic pillars of a national vision as *Kasaganaan* (Prosperity), *Kalayaan* (Freedom), and *Katarungan* (Justice). She also recognizes that the great task ahead is to win the war against poverty in the Philippines *within the decade*. Her national agenda revolves around four components, namely (1) free enterprise with a social conscience; (2) a modernized agricultural sector founded on social equity; (3) the preferential option for the poor and the disadvantaged to balance the economic development plan; and (4) raising the moral standards of government and society.

Most of the criticism against her Sona is focused on two main issues:

First, that under the financial situation we are in, the national agenda presented is unrealistic and too ambitious; that without the revenues needed for these undertakings, the administration will not succeed. I think this criticism is misplaced at this time. What the critics want is to see success and achievement immediately, otherwise the Sona is merely a promise or, worse, an impossibility.

There is a saying: "Whom God would destroy, He crowns with early success." We have become a society that worships success, particularly instant success; we have failed to accept that it is through tests and trials that good fortune and lasting success come. Besides, I believe that, for the determined, nothing is impossible because the "impossible is a challenge for the bold and an obstacle for the weak" and "the impossible takes longer to achieve."

What is noteworthy is that our President has set her sights on lofty goals. What is even more noteworthy is that a number of the tasks and initiatives specified in the Sona have already been started or put in motion and its achievement will depend on our support and cooperation. Among these initiatives is the development of our domestic industries vis-à-vis imported ones. I also believe that our problem is not a lack of resources but a lack of sharing of these resources. We see this



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## Talking points

ATTY. Chato's summing up of the President's four-point national agenda raises an interesting—but common—language conundrum: In the account of a given event, how much of the report is original and how much a matter of interpretation? The four components are identified accurately enough, and yet we can see that these four categories, which provided the organizing structure for the President's first State of the Nation Address, have also been sifted through a specific mental filter: Chato's.

Consider Component No. 3, which the former chief of the Bureau of Internal Revenue defines as "the preferential option for the poor and the disadvantaged to balance the economic development plan." We can be sure that this is what President Macapagal meant; but we can be just as certain that she did not use this actual phrasing in the Sona. "Preferential option" is rich in overtones that have accumulated since the 1960s, when the institutional Catholic Church in the West

took a decisive turn with Vatican 2 and started coupling faith with justice. ("Development is the new name for peace," Pope Paul VI famously wrote.)

A devout Catholic, President Macapagal knows the weight and import of the phrase; as the country's chief executive delivering her first Sona, however, she must have known that to deploy the phrase would have been counter-productive. It would have, to cite only one possibility, again called attention to her perceived docility to

priestly or episcopal influence. So the speechwriting strategy must have been to retain the meaning but to junk the phrase.

But in an interesting example of the dynamic, give-some-and-take-some character of language, Chato, a leading member of the Couples for Christ movement, re-read the President's third component in terms she and her fellow members are familiar with. Hence, a preferential use for the "preferential option."

## The three goals of Edsa 2

BY TERESITA D. BALTAZAR

Konsyensyang Pilipino, Executive Director

WHILE People Power 1 was a revolt against dictatorship, People Power 2 was basically a revolt against corruption, most especially the mother of all corruption—plunder—compounded by incompetence and criminal activities that were bringing our nation to economic ruin and impoverishing our people.

People Power 2 was not just about removing a lying, thieving, incompetent President. More importantly, it was about bringing him and his cohorts to the bar of justice, instituting reforms to create a climate that will never again allow such blood-sucking vermin to bring our country to the depths of bankruptcy and disrepute, and

of course, cleaning up the mess that such a sickening disgraceful presidency left in its wake.

Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's Sona addressed all three aspects of People Power 2.

She made a categorical declaration of the commitment of her administration to resolutely pursue the prosecution of ex-President Estrada and his cohorts, to the longest and loudest applause at the Sona (save for the standing ovation for the children of Payatas). Recognizing the state of civil society in stamping out corruption in government as evidenced by the rich crop of brilliant lawyers, who volunteered their services in the impeachment trial and in the ongoing prosecution of ex-President Estrada, she expressed her support for an amendment in the Ombudsman law that would allow these volunteer private lawyers to participate in the proceedings. She took pains to explain her all-too-frequent visits to the disgraced ex-President, which caused bouts of panic, paranoia and even distrust among People Power 2 adherents. This time around—having learned a bitter lesson from People Power 1, in the aftermath of which Martial Law plunders and tormentors returned in full glory while their cases languished in the courts—civil society will not leave the exacting of justice to government alone and will remain relentless and resolute in the pursuit of swift justice so that we can stand proudly beside our Asian neighbors who do not hesitate to send their ex-Presidents to jail for graft.

The Sona addressed the problem of graft and corruption by constituting a Presidential Anti-Graft Commission that will join the war to arrest this growing cancer in our body politic, which metastasized to catastrophic proportions during the leadership by bad example of ex-President Estrada.

The Sona outlined concrete measures to immediately address the sufferings and miserable conditions of the teeming poor, who pinned their hopes on an empty slogan and a silver screen hero who did nothing during his presidency but carouse with his midnight cabinet, attend lavish weddings, collect *jueteng* bribes, build mansions for his mistresses, make money on manipulated stocks, ad nauseam.

It is ironic that those who practiced "the silence of the lambs" while their patron was bringing our country to ruin with his corrupt, incompetent and criminal presidency should now be nitpicking at the President's efforts to bring our country back on its feet. "Wala silang karapatan. Tumahimik na lang sila. (They have no right. They should just shut up.)"

## More has to be done

BY FLORO ROY L. OLIVEROS

Labor Solidarity Movement

THERE is more to the urgent wish of Jomar—"Sana po ay mabigyan ng permanenteng trabaho ang tatay ko para hindi siya mahirapan"—than has been pronounced in the Sona.

Every year, about 1.2 million Filipinos, like Jomar's father, are added to the country's labor force seeking productive and regular employment; at the same time, a quarter of a million active members of the labor force are threatened with the loss of their jobs. Given these realities, it will be very difficult for Jomar's father to compete with six million other Filipino workers, who are equally in despair of landing a decent job.

The core strategy based on the economic philosophy of free enterprise, if left to its main precept of unbridled competition, will not necessarily bring forth the desired results of employment generation and job preservation. More has to be done if we want to break the cycle of jobless growth we have been experiencing in the past three years. While the private sector remains the engine of economic growth, the government has to do more to enhance and sustain this role. We have to enable our industries to survive and be more competitive in the global market by, among others, instituting support programs for total productivity; reducing the cost of doing business by reducing energy cost and inter-island transport fares, insuring low interest rates on industrial and agricultural loans, continuing the drive against smuggling and dumping, and eradicating graft and corruption, par-

ticularly in the Bureau of Customs and in licensing agencies.

The target to generate one million jobs in the agriculture sector, through the modernization of agriculture and fisheries, is very laudable indeed. This administration, however, should promote sustainable employment in all sectors within its means and resources. More concretely, the basic concern is whether we can sustain and preserve most, if not all, of these newly generated jobs in the long term.

Regular employment should not always be equated with wage employment in the formal sector. The unprecedented growth in the informal sector of the labor force in the past five years should have redirected the focus of our human resource development by providing support to self-employment, entrepreneurship and cooperative undertakings.

The government should promote the concept and practice of social partnership between labor and capital. This will entail confidence-building mechanisms, transparency and cooperation between and among partners. The repeal of Department Order No. 10 augurs well for the labor sector. The immediate granting of an emergency living allowance may jumpstart the cooperation necessary in these critical times.

This administration should continue to aspire for decent employment for all, as it endeavors in dialogue with its social partners to provide for a family living wage for Jomar's father and for all.

In terms of argument, Ms Baltazar follows Chato's logical flow. She starts with a brisk recapitulation of what Edsa 2 was about, and proceeds to link the Sona with the event. "Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's Sona addressed all three aspects of People Power 2," she writes, and then illustrates her thesis with paraphrases from the speech, one per aspect. (To judge by the number of times she paints an unflattering picture of the deposed President, the outrage that drove many to the EDSA Shrine remains

vivid for Baltazar.)

Mr. Oliveros' tack is completely different. Reflecting his sectoral background, he highlights one particular quote—the wish of Jomar, one of the Payatas kids, for his father to have a permanent job—and builds on from there. He has reservations about the economic philosophy behind the Sona, but instead of opting out he calls on the government to do more to "break the cycle of jobless growth." Jomar's father would approve.—J. Nery

# The WORLD

LUVERNE B. GUECO, Editor

## Powell arrives in China on fence-mending mission

BEIJING—US Secretary of State Colin Powell arrived in Beijing yesterday for a day of top-level talks on improving China-US relations roiled by a series of security and human rights spats in the first half of this year.

Powell, the most senior Bush administration official to visit China, flew in from Seoul after Beijing removed one obstacle to better ties by freeing three US-linked Chinese scholars convicted of spying for Taiwan.

Their release this week after months of US lobbying reflected a clear Chinese desire for smooth meetings between Powell and President Jiang Zemin, Premier Zhu Rongji and Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan. Powell's meetings during a tour of Asian and Pacific nations are designed to prepare for a visit to China in October by President George W. Bush. His first meeting of the day is with Tang, the second talks with the foreign minister in four days.

Hours after Powell and Tang held talks in Hanoi on Wednesday, China said it would give medical parole to two scholars, permanent US residents Gao Zhan and Qin Guangguang. They had been sentenced to 10 years in prison for spying for Taiwan.

The expulsions began that day when academic Li Shaomin, a US citizen convicted of spying for Taiwan, was put on a flight to San Francisco just before



POWELL

the Powell-Tang talks on the sidelines of a regional security meeting.

Bush got off to a bad start with China because of the scholars and the April 1 collision of a US spy plane and a Chinese fighter jet, which led to an 11-day diplomatic standoff that inflamed nationalist sentiment in both countries.

Powell has said he would look into the cases of a handful of other Chinese scholars with links to the United States—and

raise wider human rights issues with Beijing, including the system under which the academics were arrested.

Tang and Powell emerged from their one-hour talks in Hanoi, sounding upbeat, with Powell declaring an "upswing" in relations and Tang speaking of "new opportunities for progress."

The Hanoi meeting discussed non-proliferation, but did not cover Bush's plan to build a missile defense shield, which China stridently opposes. Powell told reporters he would explain the controver-

versial US program in Beijing.

One potential irritant emerged on Friday when the Washington Post reported that the United States believed China continued exports of missiles and related technology to Pakistan and other countries in violation of a pledge it made to the United States.

Asked about the allegations at a news conference in South Korea, Powell said he had not yet seen the report but that Chinese compliance with the November 2000 accord had been "mixed—some success and some areas that need improving."

"I will be taking this up with the Chinese authorities in due course," he said.

A senior State Department official in Seoul, speaking on condition of anonymity, declined to confirm which, if any, countries the United States believed China had transferred missile technology to.

"They told us in Hanoi that they were putting in place a better export control system and that's obviously one of the things we'll want to talk to them about," he said.

Asked about the non-proliferation issue in Hanoi, a Chinese official said Beijing was willing to discuss it but also wanted talks to cover US sales of advanced arms to China's rival Taiwan.

In April, Bush riled China by announcing a robust arms sales package for Taipei and vowing to do "whatever it takes" to defend the island in the event of an attack by China.

Reuters



A WOMAN stops former Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid to pay her respects by kissing his hand after he arrived at Dulles International Airport in Washington, D.C., July 27, on his way to John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland.

## Deposed Wahid gets no VIP status in US

CHANTILLY, Virginia—Former Indonesian president Abdurrahman Wahid arrived here Friday for medical treatment, following his tumultuous removal from office by his country's parliament.

Wahid flew to Dulles International Airport from London, and was expected to continue directly to Baltimore, where he was to be admitted to Johns Hopkins University Hospital, according to Indonesian Embassy officials.

Hospital officials refused to confirm whether he had checked into the hospital or what kind of treatment he was to receive.

The former Indonesian president is clinically blind, has suffered two strokes and is a diabetic.

No VIP treatment was extended to the former president as he and his wife were moved through US Customs in wheelchairs.

Asked by reporters how he felt after his removal from office on Monday, Wahid responded: "I'm not sad."

He said he planned a five-day hospital stay.

Before leaving Jakarta Thursday, Wahid promised his supporters not to abandon politics and vowed to come home to fight the hard-line military figures he says conspired to force him out of power.

"When I return, I will continue my struggle for democracy," Wahid told a small crowd of about 1,500 people outside the presidential palace, before driving straight to the airport.

"Please be patient and avoid violence—it's not easy to fight for democracy."

Wahid was dismissed



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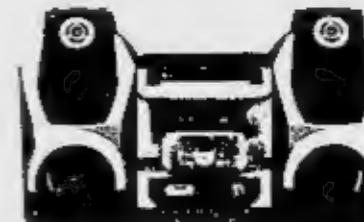
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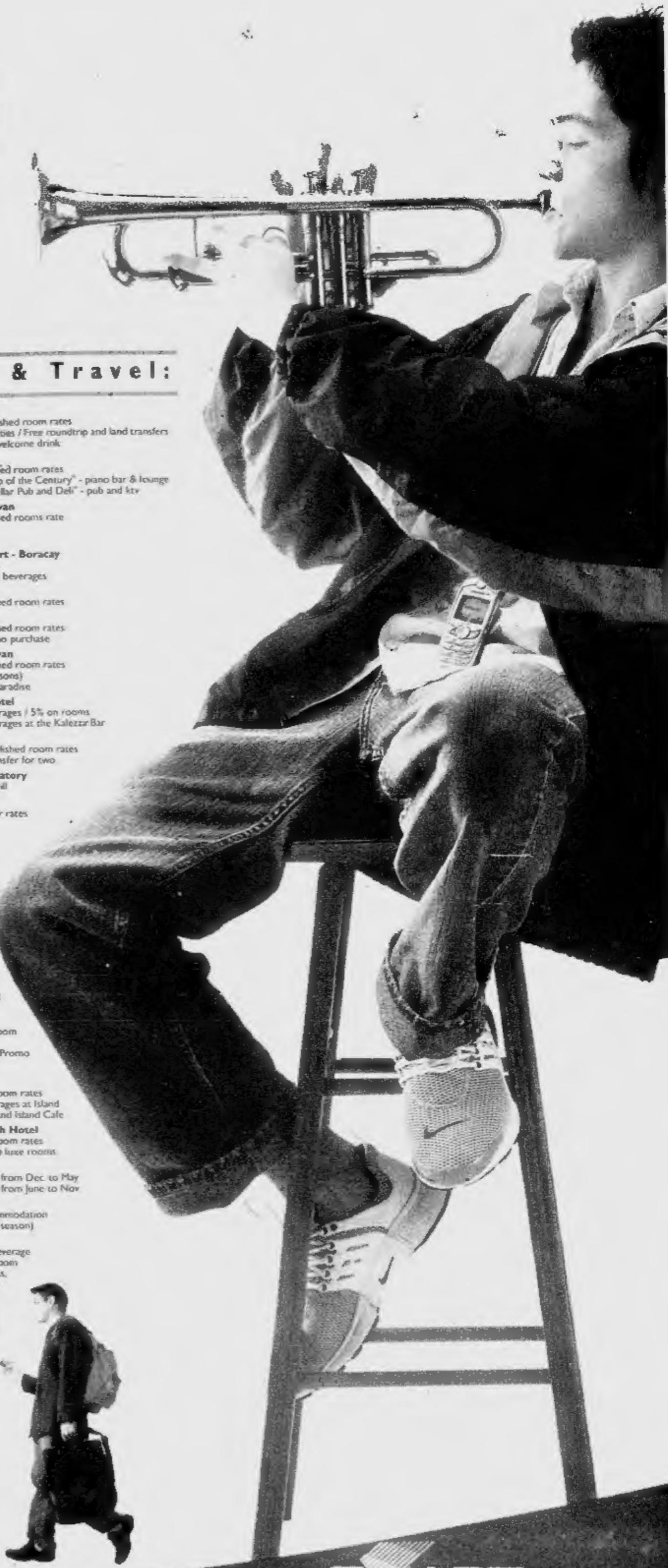
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# Teaching meet slams Japan books

JOMTIEN, Thailand—Controversial textbooks accused of whitewashing the true history of Japanese military aggression in Asia before and during World War II were condemned yesterday by an international conference of teachers.

Education International (EI) members unanimously approved a resolution condemning the secondary school textbooks for their "glorification of Japanese colonial rule and history of aggression."

The textbooks have caused widespread anger among Japan's neighbors for playing down events such as the 1937 Nanjing massacre in China and the use of hundreds of thousands of Asian women as sex slaves for Japanese troops.

Seoul and Beijing have demanded dozens of changes to the books, but Tokyo has said it would only carry out two small changes as there were no "clear mistakes."

The EI, which brings together some 300 teaching unions and organizations from 155 countries, was meeting at a conference here, which is due to end on Sunday.

The resolution was put forward by a delegation from South Korea and seconded by fellow teachers from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore.

It said the textbooks "would damage the friendly relations among countries of the Asia-Pacific area and, moreover, have a negative influence on history that they promote."

"We remind the Japanese government that these days the international trend is to reflect on one's own history of wars and violence . . . as demonstrated by Germany which has made a grave reflection of its history and given good apologies and compensation to war victims."

EI "urges the Japanese government to immediately correct such textbooks that glorify its wars and colonial rule while distorting the historical truth," the resolution added.

The Japanese occupation of the Korean peninsula from 1910 to 1945 had also been presented as an era of "civilization" in the books, said the South Korean delegation.

"The Japanese distort historical facts like their invasions in Asia in the 20th century and during World War II," said Lee Dong Jin, a representative of the Korean Teachers and Educational Workers Union.

"The Japanese invaded Korea but they are still saying that it was a kind of gift to modernize the country, simply because they have supplied electricity and water."

"But it was a kind of aggression and Korea has suffered from the Japanese invasion."

The books were penned by the Society for History Textbook Reform, a group made up of avowed nationalist historians who assert the country has become too "masochistic" in assessing its past. *AFP*



CURIOS Japanese take the measure of the middle school history textbook, "New History Textbook" written by nationalist scholars as it was put on sale at a bookstore in Tokyo June 4. Attempting to get public support for the book, publisher Fusosha made the unusual move of marketing it soon after its approval by Japan's education ministry. Fusosha says it has sold 515,000 copies so far.

## Book may never get to classrooms

TOKYO—When revisionist history textbooks were approved in Japan this year, the outcry was fast and furious: critics said they papered over Tokyo's wartime atrocities. China complained and South Korea protested.

Now it's less likely the books will ever get into the classroom.

A school district in northeastern Japan voted this week to bar the most widely criticized edition, and none of the 100 or so districts it has made their textbook choices for next year have chosen the text.

The trouble the books are having getting into students' hands has infuriated their nationalist authors, who claim they are the victims of a pressure campaign by opponents.

But the results so far have cheered the books' critics.

"Many Japanese citizens, unlike our government, are still conscientious enough to find the book undesirable," said Yoshihumi Tawara, who heads a civic group Children and Textbooks Japan Network 21. "I hope the message reaches our Asian neighbors and the rest of the world."

Most of the controversy in Asia surrounds a book titled, "New History Textbook," a junior high book written by a group of nationalist authors who claim students learn too much about Japanese wartime atrocities and not enough about pride in their country.

The text was one of the eight history books the government approved earlier this

year. Japan's government does not write textbooks, but it screens proposed books for use in public schools.

The "New History Textbook" has angered many Asian countries, particularly China and South Korea, for softening or deleting major events in Tokyo's bloody conquest of much of East and Southeast Asia in the first half of the 20th century.

For example, the book does not mention allegations of germ warfare by Japan in China, there is no section on the 200,000 women forced to work as prostitutes for Imperial troops, and no death toll provided for the 1937 "Rape of Nanking," when Japanese invaders killed at least 100,000 people. *AP*

AP

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## Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

### WEATHER FORECAST

**PEACCAST**—Balanes Group of Islands and Cagayan including Cagayan Islands will have stormy weather and the coastal waters of these areas will be rough to very rough. The rest of Northern Luzon will have rains and occasional gusty winds with moderate to rough seas. The rest of Luzon and Western Visayas will experience monsoon rains while the rest of the country will be cloudy with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Monsoon rains	Hi 29° Lo 24°
Baguio	Monsoon rains	Hi 23° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Stormy	Hi 28° Lo 24°
Laosag	Stormy	Hi 28° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Monsoon rains	Hi 28° Lo 24°
Tagaytay	Monsoon rains	Hi 27° Lo 20°
Legazpi	Monsoon rains	Hi 30° Lo 24°
Calapan	Monsoon rains	Hi 30° Lo 23°
Bacolod	Monsoon rains	Hi 30° Lo 25°
Roxas	Monsoon rains	Hi 30° Lo 25°
Cebu	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Monsoon rains	Hi 31° Lo 25°
San. Santos	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 23°
Zambanga	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 23°
Davao	Cloudy with rains	Hi 31° Lo 24°

Compiled by Armin P. Adina, PDI Research/07/25/01

### ROUNDUP

#### Jail for shabu peddler

**BAGUIO CITY**—Judge Antonio Reyes of the regional trial court here sentenced a man to two years in prison for selling P500 worth of shabu in April last year. Reyes dismissed the claims of Crispolo Valente that he was framed up by the police during a buy-bust operation. Reyes, however, acquitted Mercaldo Jimenez and Eldam Collantes, who were accused of selling shabu together with Valente, due to lack of evidence. *Sandra Go and Michelle Angelie Mendoza, PDI Northern Luzon*

#### 250 farmers get land

**IBA, ZAMBAL**—The Department of Agrarian Reform distributed Certificates of Land Ownership Award covering 229.5 hectares of public and private lands to 250 farmers here Wednesday. DAR Regional Director Nestor Acosta said the World Bank funded the agrarian community projects for P80 million to boost farm production in Cabangan and San Antonio towns. *Cesar Villa, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

#### 5 suspected NPA captured

**TUGUEGARAO CITY**—Two suspected New People's Army rebels were wounded Monday when a group of rebels clashed with government soldiers at Barangay Abbariongan in Sto. Niño town. Five other rebels were captured. Seized from them were high-powered guns and anti-government documents. *Estanislao Caldera and Villanor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

# Dengue returns to sow terror in the provinces

**DENGUE** fever returned like a nightmare. But the terror it now sows nationwide is real.

Everywhere there's stagnant water, the *aedes aegypti*, the dengue-carrying mosquito species, spreads dengue like a plague.

In Negros Occidental and Bacolod City, the number of dengue cases continues to rise. There were 493 cases as of yesterday.

In Bacolod City, at least 355 persons were found to have dengue, according to Warita Valente of the city health office.

In Negros Occidental there were at least 138 cases, said Dr. Ernesto Malvas, provincial health officer.

The cases were recorded since January but most, or about 400 cases, were detected in June and this month.

Malvas said the number of cases in the province could be as high as 600 since cases of dengue in remote areas have not been reported yet.

Dengue spared no one, not even former Negros Occidental Gov. Rafael Coscoluelta.

Dr Remedios Ortaliz said Coscoluelta had been taken off the respirator and his condition was improving. His blood platelet count also

increased to 73,000 from an earlier low of 19,000. The normal platelet count level is 150,000 to 250,000.

Malvas said recent rains might have led to the spread of the mosquito-borne disease. Eliminating the breeding places of the day-biting *aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, which breed on clean and stagnant water, can prevent dengue fever.

Dengue is a viral infection common throughout the tropical regions of the world, a paper by Dr. Alan Spira of The Travel Medicine Center in Beverly Hills, California said.

Dengue has a short incubation period—often days, usually less than a week. The signs and symptoms of dengue include a sudden, rapidly climbing fever, severe headache, nausea and vomiting, loss of appetite, rash and deep muscle and joint pains, Spira's paper said.

The fear that the disease struck in the hearts of people was so intense that in Digos City, stores reported brisk sales of insecticides, repellants and other products that could kill or ward off mosquitoes.

The fear is not baseless.

In Digos alone, at least three people already

died of dengue while dozens of others were brought to hospitals.

The city council declared a state of emergency in the city's 26 villages to allow the city government to appropriate and use 5 percent of its budget as a calamity fund for an aggressive anti-dengue campaign.

Storeowners said because of the dengue scare, the sale of anti-mosquito products had been brisk.

"Anything that is anti-mosquito sells fast these days, despite the crisis," a businessman said.

Although the sale of anti-mosquito products was brisk, most vendors and stores here have not increased the prices of these commodities.

A 150 ml bottle of petroleum-based spray solution still costs P29.50 while a 50 ml bottle of mosquito repellent lotion is priced at P47.

"Maybe businessmen felt that it is not good to cash in on the dengue fear," said Mila Crescencio, a storekeeper.

"Sometimes we have to order every three days. In the past, we only replenish our stock once a month," Crescencio said.

Dr. Salud de la Cruz, municipal health officer II, said it is good that people are learning to fight dengue, but she added that using anti-mosquito products is not enough. "People should learn that cleanliness is still the best weapon against dreaded diseases such as dengue," De la Cruz said.

She said residents have to get rid of stagnant water in cans or used tires, which are favorite breeding places of the *aedes aegypti* or tiger mosquito, the carrier of the dengue virus.

Barangay officials have also used 5 percent of their funds to start massive fogging in potential disease areas.

The move, Mayor Arsenio Latasa said, could be one of the reasons Digos has the lowest number of dengue cases in the region.

The city council, with the help of the education department, has launched a program called "The little dengue brigade," anti-dengue teams composed of elementary school pupils.

The task of the brigades is to clear their schools of mosquito breeding places through cleanliness drives. *Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau and Allan Naval, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

## Sagada folk tell rebels, troops: Fight elsewhere

**BAGUIO CITY**—Residents of the tourist town of Sagada in Mt. Province have asked the Philippine Army and the New People's Army to do their fighting elsewhere and leave the town alone to keep it a "peace zone."

Sagada Mayor Thomas Killip said the residents wanted to open their communication lines with the Army and the NPA's Leonardo Pasci Command to assert their right to live in peace, following recent skirmishes between government troopers and communist guerrillas who are waging war in the countryside.

"We want to assert our civilian rights to remind both ... the conflicting parties (of) the (need for) security of the civilian popu-

lation. Although there is tension between them, we hope that the people of Sagada would not be disrupted in their farming activities," Killip told the INQUIRER.

The residents' appeal came after four government soldiers were killed during an encounter with NPA rebels in Lake Danum, near Sagada, on June 12.

A team of soldiers belonging to the 22nd Special Forces Company was given the task of securing the area where a multi-sectoral group was scheduled to plant trees.

Sagada residents expressed alarm as the firefight broke the silence of the town since it was declared a peace zone in 1987.

Residents said the tourist town, which is more than 400 km north of Metro Manila,

had been the scene of violent encounters between the NPA and the military in the 1970s.

Killip said the residents have welcomed the holding of dialogues with either of the two parties to maintain peace in the town, a popular tourist haunt known for its pine forests, caves, waterfalls and ancient burial grounds.

"We just want to remind the government that the residents of Sagada do not favor the presence of Army soldiers in the area. The peace zone (declaration) is a way of dealing with the armed conflict, and as much as possible, civilians should not be dragged into the crossfire," he said.

"We also want to clarify that the declaration

of a peace zone is a concept and not a solution to the conflict. The peace zone is intended to mitigate the heavy effects of this conflict."

Dino Kaluya, spokesperson of the Kabataang Makabayan-Datko, the NPA's youth arm operating in the Mt. Province, said the peace zone declaration "is not as real, asic as before."

"We have to remember that there is an existing war between the government and the NPA, especially at this point that we have to defend the land of our people from mining, construction of dams and militarization," Kaluya told the INQUIRER. *Desiree Caliza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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# Nene to GMA: Testify

(From page A1)

in place and the President made no attempt to have them recalled, Pimentel said. Ms Macapagal's statement that she knew who might have been involved was "a very good admission that something did happen."

"Although technically we can't summon her since she is a sitting President, we can ask her to submit a written deposition or (to testify via) closed-circuit camera," Pimentel said.

He also said that the opposition was hoping that Rodrigo would make a sworn statement detailing her accusations "to serve as the basis of a Senate investigation."

The possible investigation by the Senate blue ribbon committee will also include Estrada crony Jaime Dichaves, who is suspected of owning the two companies involved in the controversy, Philippine Communication Clearinghouse Inc. and APC Wireless Interface Network Inc.

Ombudsman Aniano Deserto said Rodrigo would be asked to explain her allegations in the government's separate probe.

But the Ombudsman's investiga-

tion will be limited to determining whether public officials—including senators, congressmen and heads of government agencies—were involved in the alleged bribery scandal, Deserto said in an interview yesterday.

"Definitely there will be no criminal investigation of Arroyo at this point" unless it is established that public officials were involved, he said.

Deserto said he would investigate Arroyo only if he found evidence that the President's husband, as a private citizen, worked in cahoots with government officials to commit a crime.

If investigators find evidence of graft and corruption, Deserto will imme-

diately order the Ombudsman Fact-finding and Investigation Bureau to start a formal inquiry.

## Filling in blanks

Following the President's disclosure on Friday that she had conducted an internal investigation and knew the identities of the people involved in the controversy, Pimentel jumped on her statement as an admission that the matter was worth probing further.

"This saves us a lot of trouble to prove that something happened. What

we'll do would be like an examination of filling in the blanks," he said.

Deserto similarly said he ordered the investigation on the assumption that the President had unearthened irregularities.

"I ordered the inquiry considering that the President is the head of the executive branch whose agencies or officials may have been involved in the alleged irregularity," he said.

Pimentel, for his part, said the Senate would have to investigate the matter to determine if bribe money did come into the picture.

"If money changed hands to get the veto reconsidered, then obviously, there is a reason to investigate," he said.

The militant group Bayan also called on the President to make public the results of her investigation.

Pimentel speculated that the President's decision to refer the matter to the Ombudsman could be meant to "convince the senators not to pursue their investigation anymore."

"But I want to assure the people that I will not file a resolution (for a Senate investigation) unless I have the evidence," Pimentel told reporters at

the weekly press forum at the Sulo Hotel in Quezon City.

"I don't want to start unless we have a stronger basis for the investigation," he said.

He repeated that he had not ever spoken with Rodrigo yet.

**Jurisdiction**

The Ombudsman reiterated that investigating Arroyo does not fall under his jurisdiction because the First Gentleman is a "private citizen."

Pimentel said the Ombudsman could investigate the matter even if Arroyo is not a public official because there might be other government officials involved.

Deserto agreed in a separate interview.

"If there were government officials involved in the alleged illegal transaction, then my office has the jurisdiction to investigate them . . . and Mike Arroyo," he said.

Deserto clarified that he was aware that there is a law that penalizes husbands or wives or relatives of government officials for abusing their ties for personal gains.

"But that law authorizes the Ombudsman to investigate only if the pri-

vate citizen conspired with a public official to carry out the transaction," he said.

He said Ombudsman investigators would first examine the "data" or "evidence" they have gathered so far.

"But these data consist of newspaper clippings. We will still wait for the documents and affidavits to be turned over by the Office of the President," Deserto stressed.

## Rumors or facts?

After text messages spread earlier this month alleging that Arroyo accepted P41.5 million to purportedly persuade his wife to recall a telecom franchise bill veto, the First Gentleman went on radio to deny the accusation.

He said that he had heard that a resigning Palace secretary had received money in exchange for promising that the veto would be rescinded.

Not long afterward, an angry Rodrigo, the daughter of late Sen. Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo, went on radio herself and said Arroyo was using her as a "scapegoat" because he had taken a bribe but had failed to deliver the goods.

It later turned out that several people, including a congressman, had lobbied for the reconsideration of the vetoes of the bills granting franchises to PCCI and APC Wireless to set up a telecommunications clearinghouse and a new nationwide telecom system.

Only Congress, however, can override an executive veto.

Both companies are owned by Pacifico Marcelo, an Estrada appointee to the board of the sequestered Philcomsat.

## Ownership issue

The ownership issue is important because if Dichaves turns out to be the actual owner of the firms, the discov-

ery would lend credence to Rodrigo's claim that Arroyo and three associates accepted money from a Dichaves-owned company.

Through their lawyers, the companies have denied that any of their owners "are fronting for anybody," after the transportation and communication secretary said that he suspected that Marcelo was the front man of Dichaves, a close friend of ousted President Joseph Estrada.

Marcelo, a former consultant of a telecom trading company owned by Dichaves, was purportedly the latter's nominee to the Philcomsat board under the Estrada administration.

Dichaves is not among the listed incorporators of PCCI and APC Wireless.

PCCI and APC Wireless have categorically denied bribing anyone in the course of seeking to have the vetoes reconsidered. They have also denied doing anything illegal, and have said that they respect the President's decision to keep the vetoes in place.

## How about Sotto?

Asked whether opposition Sen. Vicente Sotto—whose committee reviewed and granted the franchise to PCCI—would also be asked to explain what he knew about the owners, Pimentel said that this was unlikely.

Sotto chaired the Senate public services committee in the 11th Senate. He recently came out with a press release defending the viability of the franchise request.

"I don't know what is the basis to investigate him," Pimentel said.

But told about Senate President Franklin Drilon's observation that it was up to Sotto to determine whether PCCI's stockholders were dummies of Dichaves, Pimentel said: "Maybe, that is one detail we should know."

*With a report from Delfin Mallari*

# 'My spirit will never be broken by a Mike Arroyo'

(From page A1)

Arroyo, ang bungay kong dahilan sa aking official letter of resignation ay nais kong alagang ang aking atak na babae na malapit nang magdalaga, inasanong kong ako ay itisan sa Malacañang nang labuk at walang guido.

Ngunit pinutulan ni Ginoong Arroyo ang mga text messages na lumabas ipos ng pagbibitw ko sa Wala Ekon kinalaman sa text messages na ito na nagsasabing ako ay nagbibitw dahil bindi ko makakalat pangungurakot ni Mike Arroyo.

Noong July 17, 2001, nakapansyam nito si Ginoong Arroyo sa inyong istasyon ng dzMM at sinabi niya na siya ay nagagalak at nabigyan siya ng pagkakalabot na sagutin ang text messages na kumakalat matapos akong magbitw.

## Telecom bill

Binuot niya sa akin na ako ang tumanggap ng pera—at hini-sitangko sa isang telecommunications bill.

Wala sana akong balak iwiwalas sa

publiko ang tunay na dahilan sa aking pagbibitw, ngunit dahil sa kanyang interview sa inyong istasyon, napagisipan kong panahon na para siwalit ko ang katotohanan.

Ako ay nagbigay ng ma'amang ko na nito ay ginawa na para nilang sangkalan sa kanilang mga kapalkan sa tinutok niya ng telecommunication franchise deal. Napagalanan ko na ang mga taong kasungkot sa deal na ito ay siya Ginoong Mike Arroyo, at tala pa Dalawa ito ay nagtrahabot sa palasyo, wala ito ay business partner ni Ginoong Arroyo.

Napagalanan ko rin na mitaikang balaga ng pera ang tumanggap nito. Ngunit ang Pangulo ay walang tangka na ipawalang bisa ang pag-veto niya, kaya't nangangalang ang sangkalan ang mga tumanggap ng pera. Hindi, kahit kailan, ako papaya ng gawin nilang sangkalan. Kaya ako nagbigay.

Bilang correspondence secretary, ako ay walang pakikidahot sa mga tagay nito. Malou Nuñez

Ang kusa-isa kong ginawa ay sinumahan ko si Ms. Malou Nuñez sa tanggapan ni Secretary Gabriel Claudio

pangalan at dangal. Ginawa niya ito sang wala atkabang-laban.

Sisirain niya ang pagkakalibigan namo ng kanyang kabiyan nang walang pakuadangan. Sa halip na magpasya na unti atko ay palasyo nang malalim, ako ay pinaghihantangan niya ng masamang gawa.

## Cautioned

Some people have cautioned me against responding to the interview statements of Mike Arroyo, and taking on forces more powerful than myself. But I would not be my father's daughter if I suffered Mr. Arroyo's accusations in silence.

My father, Soc Rodrigo, was imprisoned four times by President Ferdinand Marcos. My father's spirit was never broken. Mine will never be broken by a Mike Arroyo.

This statement will be my first and only response to media. I am referring the matter to my lawyers for possible legal recourse against Mike Arroyo. Any future statements will have to be made by legal counsel.

Mangadeng umaga tilit Cito Salama.

# Boy's mom was 'labandera' named Gloria

(From page A1)

## River

Jayson, a fifth-grade student of St. Vincent School, wants to complete his schooling, and he is banking on the President's offer to help him do that.

But Jayson's grandmother Anacleta Banogan, 67, is fearful that the boy would turn out like Mang Pandoy, another Payatas resident whom then President Fidel Ramos brought to prominence to give face to his anti-poverty program.

Years after the hoopla that started in 1992, Pandoy—Felipe Natano in real life—remains mired in poverty.

"Those poor boys should not have been made to hope," said the grandmother, who had taken care of Jayson since his parents died.

## Looking for Pandoy

But the President is bent on keeping her word.

Speaking over ANC Channel 21 yesterday morning, she reiterated that a good future was awaiting Jayson and the two other boys, Jonier Pabalan, 10, and Erwin Dolera, 8, whose wishes represented her goals of jobs, education, housing and food for Filipinos.

"Not only that," she said. "I have asked my people to look for Mang Pandoy so that we can also help him."

The President aired her plan for Pandoy when asked if the three boys would not suffer his fate.

She promised that the boys would get their wishes—a permanent job for

day before she delivered her first major policy speech, the President met Jayson at a rehearsal at the Batasan Pambansa.

Jayson said the President shook his hand and gave him words of encouragement.

Again, he said, he remembered his mother. She used to do that, too.

The boys have received at least three scholarship offers so far—from the Ateneo de Manila University, AMA Computer College and a college company.

The President did not say what help she would give Pandoy, who had come to symbolize the impoverished Filipino since he appeared in the 1992 debate among presidential candidates and offered to have himself shot for a fee so his family would have something to live on.

When Ramos became president, Pandoy was given a series of good breaks, including his own TV show "Panday at Mang Pandoy." He received a monthly stipend as consultant of then Speaker Jose de Venecia as well as financial assistance to start a small business.

But sometime in October 2000, when the INQUIRER visited him, the 55-year-old was still in dire straits. He had returned to his three-by-five-meter shack along the La Mesa Dam in Payatas.

Pandoy makes P50 a day selling brushes, mops and other household cleaning items in Payatas and the nearby

town of Rodriguez in Rizal.

**Scholarships**

Jayson, Jonier and Erwin have become celebrities since they appeared with the President at the opening of the 12th Congress last Monday.

"They're lucky, they now have a bright future ahead of them," a neighbor said.

The boys have received at least three scholarship offers so far—from the Ateneo de Manila University, AMA Computer College and a college company.

The President did not say what help she would give Pandoy, who had come to symbolize the impoverished Filipino since he appeared in the 1992 debate among presidential candidates and offered to have himself shot for a fee so his family would have something to live on.

"We were afraid they would just use him for politics," the grandmother said.

"That's why we hope the President would keep her promises."

Jayson himself was both overwhelmed and apprehensive.

Although wary, the grandmother agreed to let Jayson go. On July 22, the

President is set to meet the boy.

**No gridlock**

For all that, Pimentel said there would be no political gridlock in the Senate because he and his colleagues were determined to be "responsible" fiscalizers.

Earlier reports said the opposition was set to launch a "Guns of August" political offensive to expose the anomalies and shortcomings of the administration.

"The people need not worry about the threat of investigations. It will not hamper our work in terms of legislation. The minority in the Senate will be a responsible opposition group," Pimentel said.

"We will not object just for the sake of objection," he added.

Pimentel observed that the Senate leadership was trying to raid the ranks of the minority because "the majority is sitting on the sharp edge of a bayonet."

He said the majority was huring the opposition with committee chairman-

ships because of the danger of another Senate leadership turnover.

"But we are a close-knit opposition group. We are avoiding the possibility of getting a crack in our ranks," he said.

Pimentel also said the PPC did invite him to a party caucus in Malacañang. But this was when he was out of the country and therefore unable to attend, he noted.

## Gridlock

He said the opposition was not "salivating" for these committee posts. "We will look closely at these offers but we will buck out if there are strings attached," he said.

Pimentel also said the chairman of the Senate blue ribbon committee, which Sen. Joker Arroyo had earlier declined, had yet to be formally offered to him.

"How can I accept something that has not been offered formally?" he said.

## No obstructions

On radio, Pimentel said the opposition was not going to play the "obstructionist" role in the Senate and would support bills that it deemed good for the country.

He said he and his colleagues would only "obstruct anomalies and graft and corruption, and not good acts."

Among the alternative moves Pimentel had were:

# Ateneo struggles anew, nips Adamson, 62-61

## Army shocks Spring

ARMY pulled off a stirring reversal in the Spiceland-NBC Dunny Espiritu Cup basketball tournament Thursday by beating Spring Cooking Oil in overtime, 110-100, at the Makati Coliseum.

The Armmen outgunned Spring, 28-18, in the extra period after tying the count at 82 in regulation to deal the latter its first loss in four games in the tourney sponsored by Pisong Asia, Spring Margarine, Tanduay Distillers, Mobilene, Red Bull, SMB, Ginebra San Miguel, Purefoods, Pop Cola and Shell and supported by Milo.

Konika (Nueva) crushed Mighty Tobacco, 99-84, to share the lead with Spring while PMI nosed out MMC-Resona, 83-81, in the other games.

## SR Pak co-leader; Delasin 2 down

VIENNA, Ohio—Se Ri Pak, Marnie McGuire and Maggie Will shot 5-under-par 67s on Friday to share the first-round lead in the Giant Eagle LPGA Classic.

Defending champion Dorothy Delasin, whose victory last year over Pat Hurst on the second playoff hole made her the LPGA's youngest winner in 25 years, had a 69.

Pak, who capped her breakthrough rookie season with a victory in the 1998 tournament, played bogey-free golf while stamping herself as the clear-cut favorite in a field that includes only eight of the top 25 players on the money list.

Leading money-winner Anna Sorenstam and No. 2 Karrie Webb both skipped the tournament to prepare for Monday night's made-for-TV match with Tiger Woods and David Duval.

Pak, who is third on the money list and has already won three times this year, birdied three of the first four holes but battled an erratic driver the rest of the way. Even when she did overcome her problems off the tee, she twice missed birdie puts inside 3 meters (10 feet) and left an uphill 4.5-meter (15-foot) putt for birdie on the lip on her last hole.

Pak is from South Korea but has played as if she grew up in the Buckeye state, winning the tour stop in Toledo three of the last four years and placing first, ninth and third in her three previous appearances in the Giant Eagle.



ATENEO team captain Paul Tan Chi (7) prepares to grab the ball as teammate Eric Yao (15) and Adamson's Kim Gandarosa lose footing during their UAAP men's basketball game yesterday. The Eagles won, 62-61.

EDWIN BACASMAS

## Holyfield fight moved as Ruiz injures neck

BEIJING — China, promoter Duo King likes to say, has waited 5,000 years for a heavyweight championship bout. Now it'll have to wait a little longer: "The Quiet Man" is burning.

China's first heavyweight title fight was postponed Friday after John Ruiz injured his neck during training to defend his WBA title against Evander Holyfield. No new date was set for the bout that was scheduled for Aug. 5 in Beijing.

"There are things you can't help in life and this is one of them," Ruiz said



Friday night at a news conference. "I definitely want to apologize to the people of China. No one is more disappointed than myself."

Gonzalez underdog

LOS ANGELES — Julio Gonzalez likes the underdog. It's a good thing, because that's the position he'll be in Saturday night (Sunday morning in Manila) when he challenges WBC, IBF and WBA light heavyweight champion Roy Jones Jr. at Staples Center.

Gonzalez is 27-0 with 17 knockouts, yet Jones is a 20-1 favorite.

## Armstrong scores 4th stage victory

SAINTE-AMAND-MONTROND, France — Many people consider the Tour de France one of the world's toughest sports events due to the steep mountain climbs, the long stages in hot weather and the accumulation of fatigue over three weeks of intense racing.

Watching Lance Armstrong win Friday's individual time-trial, it was hard to believe he had been competing in the same grueling event.

With a freshness that surprised even himself, he pounded his way to a fourth



stage victory, further tightening his grip on Tour title No. 3.

"I've never felt this good in a time-trial," the Texan said. "I had great legs. The course was perfect."

Defying temperatures of 30 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit) and humid conditions, he completed the 61-kilometer (37.88-mile) stretch from Monlucou to this town in central France in 1 hour, 14 minutes, 16 seconds. He was a whopping 1:24 faster than second-place Spaniard Igor Gonzalez Galdeano.

AP

GAMES TODAY (Loyola Gym)  
2 p.m.—UST vs UE (Srs)  
4 p.m.—La Salle vs UP (Srs)

BY DENNIS U. EROA

VETERAN Paul Tan Chi and rookie sensation Lewis Tenorio saved the day for Ateneo as the Blue Eagles nipped the Adamson Falcons, 62-61, in the UAAP basketball championship yesterday at the Loyola Gym.

Tan Chi, now on his fifth and final year for the Blue Eagles, buried a 12-footer, while the slippery Tenorio caught Adamson pointguard Ramil Rey Tagupa flatfooted with a crossover, before dropping a pass to Erico Villanueva, who gave Ateneo a 60-57 cushion, 1:08 remaining.

While the result scared Ateneo no end, it somehow prolonged Adamson's agony as the Falcons fell to their 18th straight setback, counting them 0-14 record last year.

In the other seniors game, red-hot Leo Avenida provided the spark as FEU turned back NU, 83-68, to create a two-way tie for the lead.

The 6-foot-2 former rookie of the year hardly showed the ill-effects of a slight fever as he posted 31 points, eight rebounds and five steals to power the Tamaraws to their third win in four games, same card of the Ateneo Blue Falcons.

In the lone juniors' tussle, titists Ateneo Blue Eagles routed the Adamson Baby Falcons, 85-41, for their third straight victory. The Baby Falcons dropped to 3-1.

ATENEO 62—Sison 17, Villanueva 16, Alvarez 9, Tan Chi 6, Quimpo 3, Tenorio 3, Elizalde 3, Fonacier 3, Bugia 2, Yao 2.

ADAMSON 61—Abella 14, Macmackay 12, Tagupe 9, Tajponera 8, Yong 6, Rolan 4, Fenes 2, Mangalabon 2, Capel 2, Taylor 2, Gandarosa 0.

Quarters: 20-13, 27-21, 44-35, 62-61.

## Subic hosting football

THE REXONA National Beach Football Championships set for Nov. 3 will be held at the Subic Freeport by the SBMA as part of its program of promoting Subic as a haven for all kinds of sporting events.

This was announced yesterday by Milt Athab, chair of the organizing Beach Football Association of the Philippines after a recent meeting with SBMA officials.

SBMA chair Felicito Payumo has extended his invitation for beach football to make Subic its home and we have accepted the invitation. The previous legs of the Rexona Beach Football series we held in Subic were all successful, with SBMA giving its all-out support to us, said Athab.

Six teams have already qualified to the national finals, with Central Philippines University-Ililo and Boom Boom Real Coffee representing the Visayas-Mindanao regions after topping the qualifying tournament in Boncay last summer.

Interested parties can call up Ground Zero office at 832-1555 for

## Navymen picked over SBC

GAMES TODAY  
8 a.m.—UAAP vs PCU (Tall)  
10 a.m.—San Beda vs Navy  
1 p.m.—PAF vs PCU (Dasmarinas)  
3:30 p.m.—FEU vs St. Benilde

UNBEATEN Navy goes for its third victory against San Beda at 10 a.m. today in the 1st Army-Utico International invitational football tournament at the Ascom field in Fort Bonifacio.

The Navymen are slightly favored over the Bedans, who sport a 2-win, 1-loss card.

AP

## Cabalinan karting favorite

JEFF Cabalinan has been installed chief favorite in the sixth leg of the Shell Super Karting Championships today at the Batangas Racing Circuit in Rosario, Batangas.

Cabalinan's co-favorites are Lee Burnham, Allan Uy, Mandy Borja, Victor Yap, Eduardo Pena, Tyson Sy and Lorenzo Rijk, who are all hoping to keep the lead in their respective categories.

Cabalinan tries to redeem himself from last month's disappointing finish

and extend his lead in the Formula Super A category, centerpiece event in this annual series organized by the Carmona Circuit Phils. In cooperation with Shell Helix, shell Velocity and Shell Citibank Mastercard.

Cabalinan, who finished only fourth in the fifth leg held at the Carmona Racing Circuit in Cavite last June 10, is nursing a 42-point lead over multi-titled Pepot Marave, 195-153.

Also in contention in this eight-part

series also sponsored by March box/Hot Wheels, Coca-Cola, Bridgestone, Devil's Enterprises, Eastway Racing and Nokia is Manuel Mayo with 124 points. Cebu-based Jess Garcia and Mon Tanquian are fourth and fifth with 118 and 108 points, respectively.

Burnham has a five-leg aggregate of 153 points, only four points ahead of Francisco, Barreto and Neubof are also within striking distance with 144 and 140 points, respectively.

AP

## RP boatmen try luck in US



RP hopefuls during training before they qualified for the US yesterday.

The Philippine Marine Corps is coming off a major victory in the 5th Northern California Dragon Boat Championship held last year in Foster City, San Francisco. It has also ruled tournaments with international crews in Australia, Canada and Thailand.

Training director of the team is Capt. Ronaldo Rerio.

The Marines team is composed of Orlando Ordonez, Erlinda Poquiza, Joelyn Siton, Marsha Salcor, Erlinda Poquiza, Joelyn Siton, Marsha Aguado, Ellen Nunez, Adelita dela Pena, Julie Amos, Charisse Sol and Michelle Henares.

Terry Dunduan, Teodoro Solimes, Alfredo Alegrado Jr., James Resar, Racquel Espinosa, Ysmael Ursua, Salvador Daniel, David Alave, Santiago Suan, Lauro Baldeonza, Niel Calugong, Jose Patricio, Federico Astizano, Eduardo Arguelles, Romel Gavilanez, Romar Moro, Dindo Pescio, Joel Angat, Lazar Sanchez, Manelito Padua, Henry Bias, Samy Boy Tagalog and Jeoffrey Gonzales.

The Dragon Waves Marines members aside from Puno are Vachell de Alba, Joycelyn Siton, Marsha Salcor, Erlinda Poquiza, Joelyn Siton, Marsha Aguado, Ellen Nunez, Adelita dela Pena, Julie Amos, Charisse Sol and Michelle Henares.

## JB Hernandez fan no more

ADD businessman Theodore Lagupan to the list of JB Hernandez fans who have started to doubt their idol ever since he lost atop Silver Story recently.

Lagupan, from Amparo Subdivision in Quezon City, sent us a short but very interesting e-mail as he reacted on that "memorable" debacle Silver Story suffered on July 1 at Santa Ana.

Let me share that mail to all our fellow karteristas:

Dear Edwin,

I'm one of those who were terribly upset when Silver Story lost to Sonata on July 1 at the Santa Ana Park.

Imagine ang dami namang pwedeng matalo nung araw na yan si Silver Story pa. That loss was really terrible and highly questionable at the same time.

I was at the Regalado OTB station when that happened and all the bettors there could only shake their heads in disappointment.

Since that day, I've begun to have second thoughts on betting JB Hernandez rides in the future. Idol ko pa namang rya because he reminds me of another Jesus Guce or Eduardo Domingo Jr. in the making.

Exactly a week after that, Silver Story won the Horseman's Cup to sweep the Triple Crown. Kahinulahan yata na naka-recover agad yang kabaya?

When Silver Story lost, one thing raced in my mind na malamang tama ang sabi nila na ang hinete na ang may-ari once na tumakbo na

ang kabaya. They can do all the things they wanted once the horse gets into action.

Edwin, I've read your column on July 15 and you were right in saying that the suspension Hernandez got atop Silver Story for foul riding in the Horseman's Cup should serve him a lesson. Oh yes, alam ko rin na bago pa man yan ay nasisipindi rin yan for "disconcerted act."

Also, I agree with you when you said that Silver Story's sweep will forever be tainted by that setback to Sonata and suspension of Hernandez.

I hope JB Hernandez changes once he rides again. Baka magitwala ako siya na kanya.

Thanks a lot Edwin and more power to your widely-followed One Winner.

THEODORE H. LAGUUPAN

Amparo Subd., Quezon City

That stretch fronting the Philippine Racing Club was repaired all right but horror of horrors, the result was even worse than its previous condition!

Mayor Binay, baki naman po inwan nang ganyan yang kahitadang yan?

Philracom moves

## to lick 'surre'

Philracom has announced that it will come up with a set of guidelines to provide an accurate and prompt diagnosis of the existence of the parasitic disease among the current active population of race horses at the two race clubs.

Also present during the well-attended multi-sectoral forum were Dr. Victor C. Atienza, DVM, chief of the Animal Health Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry and the Bureau of Animal Health Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry recently conducted a multi-sectoral symposium on the possible treatment and control of the said ailment at the Philippine Racing Club.

Fatal outbreaks of surra, or what is commonly known in the country as the bayawak disease, have been reported in some parts of the Mindanao region, Negros Occidental and the Quezon Province, resulting in numerous deaths to horses, carabao and other draft animals.

"Aware of the possible debilitating effect of this disease to our local horse racing industry, the Philracom, through the generous assistance of the BAI, has deemed it only timely and proper that we take up positive action on this issue before the situation goes out of hand," said Philracom chair Andrew A. Sanchez.

As a first step to deal with the possible outbreak of surra, the

## RACING TIPS

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Race 9—1. Bildong B 8a. 2

Gemstone 3. Lyonnais 4. Proud Idol 5. Repertoire

Race 10—1. Golden Eagle 2. Noble

Regent 3. Magnificent Seven 4. Silver

Rose 5. 11—1. Golden Tale 2. Alert

One 2. Beatitudes 4. Forgotten Hero 5. Easy Win

Race 12—1. Breakaway Artie

Anahaw 2. Queen Storm 3. Pride of

Mandau 4. Windy City 5. Silver Linings

Race 13—1. Magic Fingers 2. Zenie's Pride 3. Gehale 4. The Painter

Race 14—1. Bull Strike 2. Prince

Armstrong 3. Perfect Gift 4. Caesar's

Inn 5. How About Me 6. Champs

Elysee

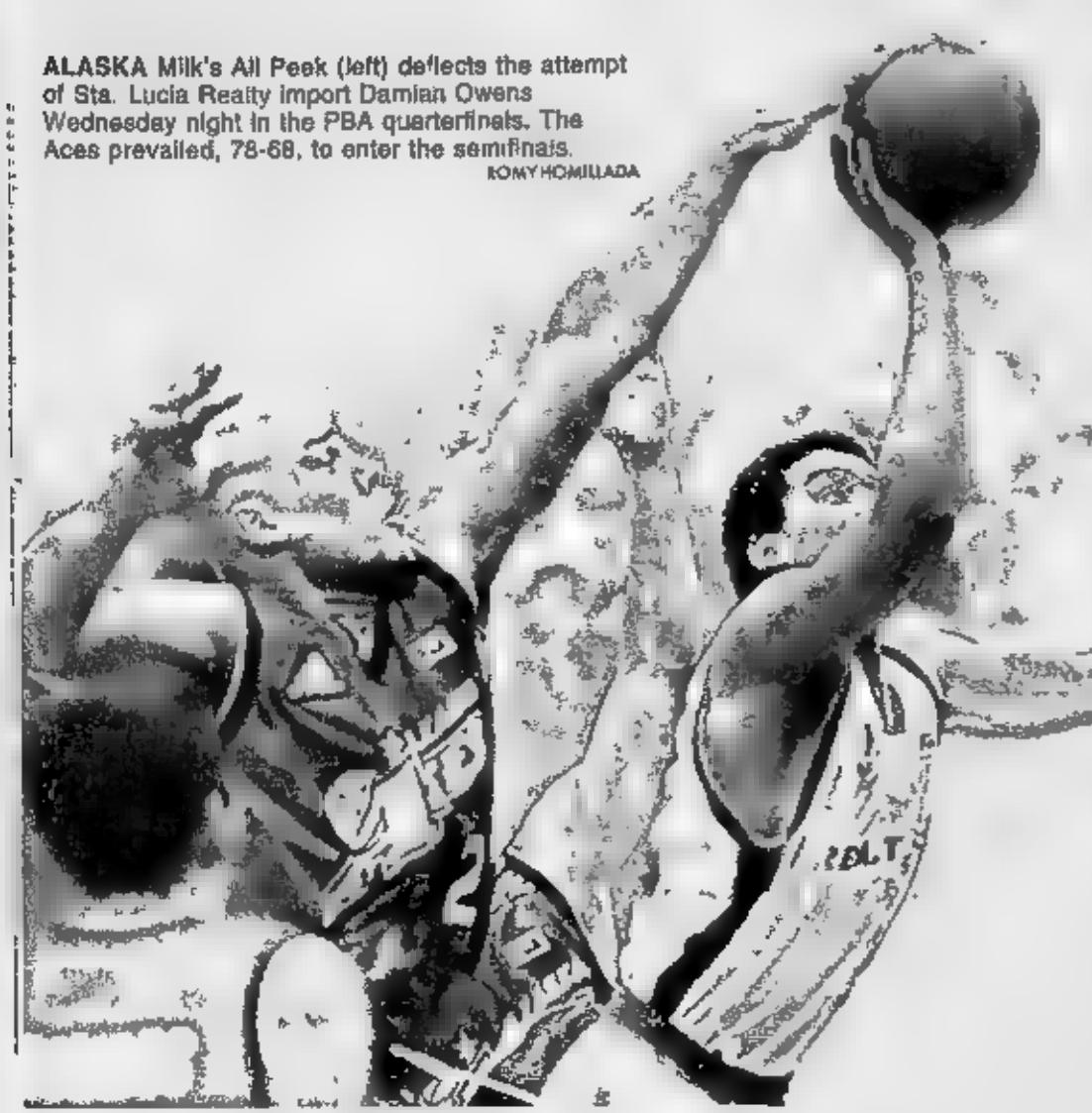
AP

Baseball

## Harlem skips S. Carolina

PHOENIX, Arizona—The Harlem Globetrotters, a United States comedy troupe known for traveling around the world to play basketball, will not play in South Carolina over concerns of racism. Globetrotters owner Mannie Jackson said Friday the Globetrotters will bypass the state because it refuses to remove the Confederate flag from its Statehouse grounds. **AFP**

ALASKA Milk's Al Peek (left) deflects the attempt of Sta. Lucia Realty import Damian Owens Wednesday night in the PBA quarterfinals. The Aces prevailed, 78-68, to enter the semifinals. **KONY HOMILLADA**



## Of NBN and Purefoods

CONDOLENCE to the family of Alice Lopez Lim, the sports journalist who died recently at age 75. Alice broke frontiers by being one of the first women to go into sportswriting in the country. From laughter, Alice was a warm and an extremely thoughtful person. Her body lies at Funeraria Paz along Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

A minimum of P15 million. That's what NBN (formerly PTV 4) needs to cover the Kuala Lumpur Southeast Asian Games in September.

The NBN, the government's television station, is cash-strapped. But according to my friend Ron de los Reyes of *Malaya*, NBN chief Joey Isabelo has said, "Malabau na namin to para sa bawat."

Para sa bayan. Fighting words.

Nice one.

If all of GMA's men are like Joey Isabelo, I believe this country can be great again to borrow a Marcos line. The guy's got guts. And more. Love for country. Who can beat that? If one loves his country and uses that as fuel to achieve a mission, who needs other reasons. If not persons, to launch a vision?

If only for that, Joey Isabelo ought to be given a gold medal for valor.

Speaking of medals, Cito Dayrit ought to be given one, too. That is, if Cito, the country's Olympic boss, can do his share by waiving the P3.5 million as broadcast rights fees of the Philippine Olympic Committee in the NBN coverage of the SEA Games. Or, not exactly waive the fees but perhaps strike up a deal with NBN for a co-production venture?

Butch Tuason's help is much needed, too. Butch, the Philippine Sports Commission chair, can pitch in some money as the coverage anyway involves the nation's athletes, who, incidentally, are PSC's main reason for being.

C'mon, talk it out among yourselves, fellas. In talking, things that appear hard to achieve can suddenly become achievable.

Why, if Cito and Butch can toss in a united front act on this, they'll go down in history as the first sports officials to really dish out a move designed for the common good of Philippine sports.

That'd be a class act.

I said this before but I'll say it again if only to stress my point: Why kill Purefoods when the team's done nothing wrong to the PBA? It's not a bad tree. It's a good tree, whose fruits since it joined the league in 1989 have become the envy of many.

Purefoods' only fault was, it got acquired by San Miguel Corporation.

I don't even consider that a fault.

That was a business act and the league should never allow itself to be

## SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

## Stags tame Lions

BY JUNE NAVARRO

**GAMES TUESDAY**  
(Rizal Memorial Coliseum)  
12 nn—Letran vs JRU  
(rs/rs)  
3 p.m.—SSC vs CSB  
(rs/rs)

SAN Sebastian College got the needed breaks in the stretch to edge San Beda, 81-77, yesterday in the NCAA basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Skyscrapers Clark Moore scattered 17 of his 19 points in the final half as the 6-foot-7 slotman relentlessly mocked the Red Lions at the frontline.

But the Red Lions weren't in the mood to just roll over and die as they negated their ceiling deficit with their speed.

Clini Erestain and Brit Romera typified the Red Lions' quickness as they prevented the towering Stags from rapping the game wide

Too bad, breaks went against the Red Lions as the Stags went on to pick up their third win in five outings.

The Red Lions, on the other hand, plunged to their fourth consecutive setback, also after five games.

"We relaxed in the fourth but we were too lucky to escape with this victory," said SSC coach Turing Valenzona.

Lucky indeed, the Stags seemed headed for a collapse as Romera and Erestain teamed up for the Red Lions' last-ditch efforts.

Romera, an RP youth mainstay, led a gallant charge in the crucial stretches to overtake the Stags, 71-70, 4:29 minutes left.

In the other seniors' tussle, Jose Rizal University nipped host Philippine Christian University, 85-81, to remain unbeaten in five games.

The Dolphins dropped to 1-4.

**Scores:**  
SSC 81—Moore 19, Macapagal 11, Nadea 11, Coronel 10, Reguera 8, Legazpi 6, Falcasan 5, De Leon 4, Najorda 4, Uy 2, Mercado 1.

SBC 77—Cordero 13, Oliveros 13, Bombao 12, Romera 12, Erestain 9, Huidar 7, Casio 5, Juico 3, Manding 2, Weber 1, Lunen 0.

Quarters: 21-16, 41-39, 62-58, 81-77.

## SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

BOXING: World Light Heavyweight Championship — Roy Jones Jr. vs Julio Gonzalez at 11:30 a.m. on RPN 8.

MOTOR SPORTS: 2001 F1 Qualifying — German Grand Prix at 9:30 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

Race Day — German Grand Prix at 7 p.m. on Star Sports

2001 F1 World Championships — German Grand Prix at 7:45 p.m. on Star Sports

Checkered Flag — German Grand Prix at 10 p.m. on Star Sports

## Sunday SPORTS

ALS. MENDOZA, Editor ■ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

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## PBA SEMIS ON

## SMB battles Alaska; Red Bull vs P'foods

BY MARC ANTHONY REYES

**GAMES TODAY**  
(Araneta Coliseum)  
4:15 p.m. — SMB vs Alaska  
6:30 p.m. — Purefoods vs

FOUR teams with four different agendas — San Miguel Beer, Alaska Milk, Purefoods and Batang Red Bull — clash today at the start of the twin best-of-five PBA Commissioner's Cup semifinals series at the Araneta Coliseum.

The Beermen, the defending champions, only have one thing on their mind and that is to impose their might against the Aces in their

separate showdown at 4:15 p.m.

"They (Aces) are a young team with a lot of talent and speed," said SMB coach Jong Uichico of their rivals. "And we can't be too confident facing them just because we have the experience."

Alaska coach Tim Cone shares Uichico's views, stating that anything can happen in their match-up.

"What I'm only sure of is that we'll give San Miguel a battle," said Cone. "We may get swept or we may sweep them but the bottom line is that we'll put up a fight against them."

Already, by sheer bench might, the winner in this series is expected to be the favorite for the championship, leaving the other series, pitting the Hotdogs against the Thunder, as mere undercard.

But that won't be the case if you'll ask Yeng Guiao, Red Bull's coach.

"I think the team is starting to really play according to our potential," said Guiao. "In this conference we managed to set aside our neophyte tag and really got to play as a matured squad."

Unfortunately for the Hotdogs, maturity is not the only strength the Thunder have. They are also bigger, faster and younger than Purefoods.

And to compound things for Purefoods, the franchise starts its semis campaign on the eve of the league decision whether the Hotdogs would stay or be disbanded, having been the third PBA team owned by San Miguel Corp.

"We just have one reason for wanting to win this conference," said Purefoods coach Eric Altanurano. "That is because we want to leave a legacy in the PBA if and when the (PBA) board decides that we have to go."

## Blades tackle SJ Knights in clash of top MBA teams

**GAMES TODAY** (La Salle Lipa Gym)  
3 p.m.—Nueva Ecija vs Sorsogon  
5:30 p.m.—Andoks San Juan vs LBC Batangas

## TEAM STANDINGS

	W	L
LBC Batangas	9	2
Andoks San Juan	9	3
Negros	9	4
Cebuana Lhuillier	9	4
Fedex Laguna	6	6
Nueva Ecija	2	8
Sorsogon	2	10

LBC Batangas tries to stay in front when it faces Andoks San Juan team today in a game pitting the league's top two teams of the 2001 MBA First Phase at the La Salle-Lipa gym.

Ahead of the field at 9-2 slate, the Blades aim to extend their winning streak to seven against the Knights, their closest pursuers with a 9-3 record.

Batangas coach Nash Racela is expected to rely anew on his dreaded starting five of Alex Compton, Tony Boy Espinosa, Rommel Adducal, Eddie Laure and Stephen Antonio, who are all instrumental in the Blades' 84-81 win over the Knights in their last encounter two months back.

Like Racela, Andoks San Juan mentor Philip Cezar has the luxury of a deeper bench built around on the intimidating frontline duo of 6-10' Rafi Reavis and 6-6' Maranze Rodriguez and a dazzling backcourt combination of Bruce Dacia, Chris Calagao, Chito Victoria, Danny Capolos and Randy Alcantara.

Both San Juan and Batangas are also expected to ride on the momentum of their recent wins. The Blades routed the Sorsogon Marlins (103-86), while the Knights turned back the Nueva Ecija Patriots (113-104) last Wednesday.

The only likely advantage LBC Batangas can summon is the crowd support, a crucial factor which helped the Blades in reaching the top. To date, LBC Batangas is unbeaten at home with wins over the Cebuana Lhuillier Gems (83-69) and the Negros Slashers (75-74).

Meanwhile, lowly Nueva Ecija and Sorsogon take on each other in the curtain-raiser at 3 p.m. The Patriots and the Marlins have been eliminated from the race to the next round after the Fedex Laguna Lukers booked the fifth and last berth following a 111-107 win over the Davao Eagles.

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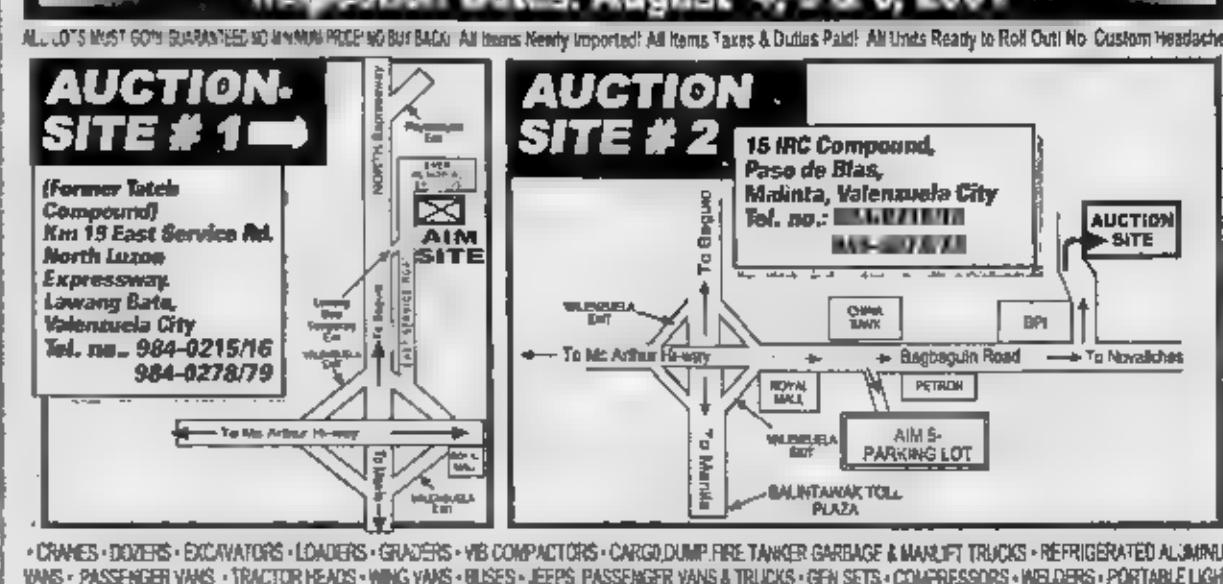
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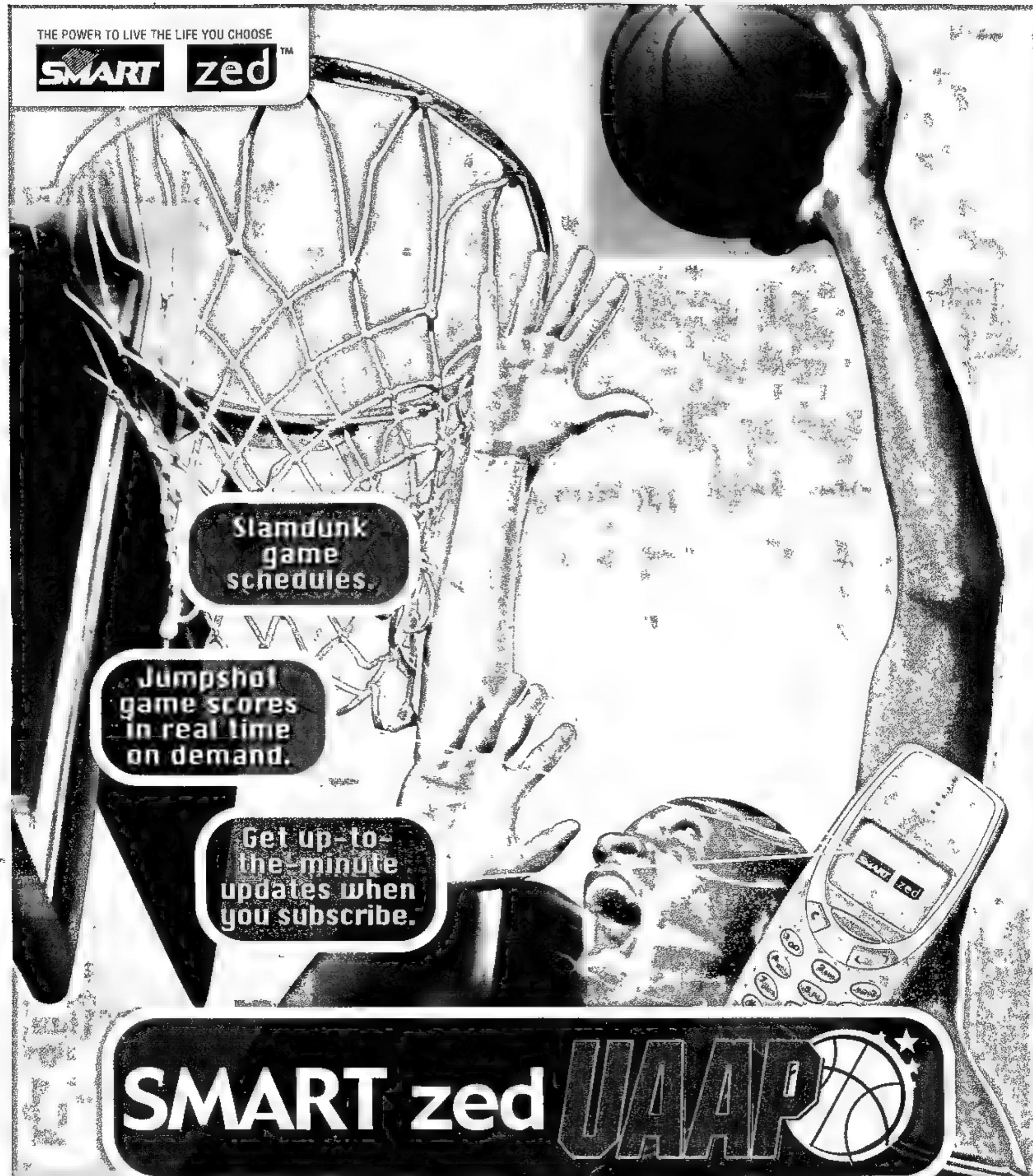
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■ Green groups reject  
Atienza deadline

A18

# METRO

LOUIE C. CARINO, Editor

## 2 kids die in Tondo fire

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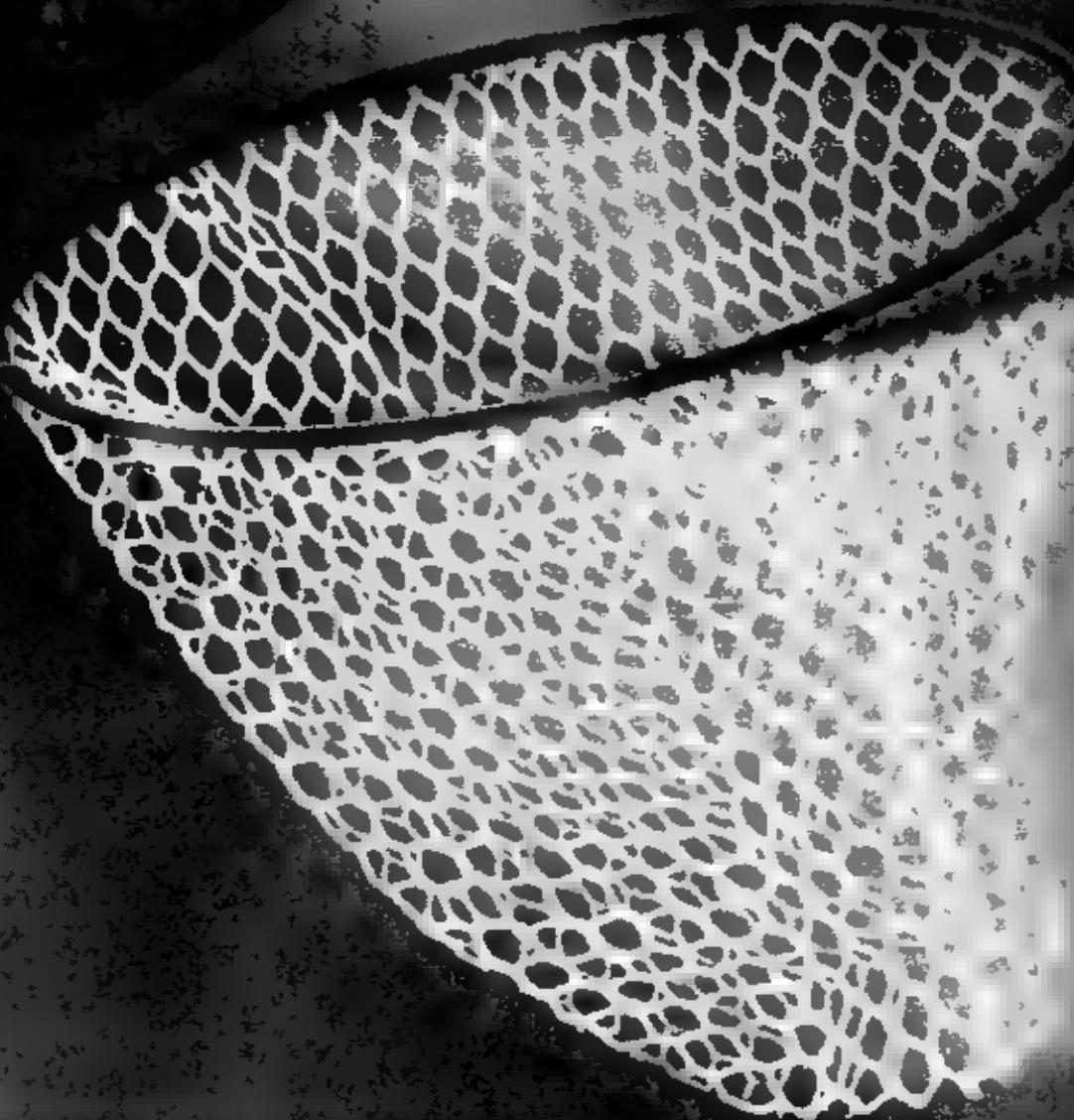
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## Woman shoots accuser

BY ALCUIN PAPA

A WOMAN in Pasay City yesterday morning shot dead a man who had accused her of involvement in illegal drugs.

The victim was identified as Lito de la Cruz, 24, of Block 30, Lot 16, St Edna Street in Maricaban, Pasay City, police said.

De la Cruz was shot in the back at point-blank range and the bullet went out through his chest, police said.

The shooting suspect was identified as Margie Sotolombo of 25-D St. Mary Street, Maricaban.

According to the investigation by

SPO1 Noellon Francisco of the Pasay City Police Criminal Investigation, the shooting happened around 9 a.m. yesterday in the residence of De la Cruz.

Police learned that Sotolombo went to De la Cruz's house after she learned that he accused her of involvement in the illegal drug trade in their area.

According to a witness, De la Cruz and Sotolombo argued until the woman shot her accuser.

Neighbors brought De la Cruz to the Pasay City General Hospital but he died along the way.

The suspect was arrested immediately after the shooting.

According to the investigation by

## Bus pins commuter to death

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

A COMMUTER yesterday morning was pinned to death by an air-conditioned bus that rammed into the jeep he was clinging to in Quezon City.

Cirillo Oben Jr., 45, of Kalusugan Street in Barangay Batasan Hills, Quezon City, died on the spot after a Sunmen bus (NYG 385), driven by Rodel O. Tatalad, crashed into the jeep Oben was riding, said investigator Yves Gary Talacay of the Central Police District-Traffic Sector V.

Vicky Elmaga, Traffic Sector V radio operator, said the accident happened around 7:30 a.m. yesterday along Commonwealth.

Elmaga said Oben was standing on the back entrance of an Isuzu passenger jeep (PWL 972) driven by Renes D. Ortega, 43.

The Sunmen bus, like the jeepney, was on the southbound lane of Commonwealth going to Philcoa, Elmaga said.

But when the jeep reached the corner of Commonwealth and Langit-Ling Street in Barangay Batasan Hills, the bus rammed into its rear.

Tatalad claimed his bus lost its brakes, Elmaga said.

"Unfortunately, the victim was clinging to the rear portion of the jeep," she said. "And so he was crushed and was pinned to death by the collision."

Oben was already dead when rescuers removed his body from the jumble of twisted metal at the collision scene.

Elmaga said police were still trying to find out which driver, Ortega or Tatalad, should be held accountable for the bloody collision. Both of them are detained in the Traffic Sector V jail.

## THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, July 29, 2001  
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gen 18:20-32

1st Reading:  
Yahweh said, "How great is the cry for justice against Sodom and Gomorrah! And how grievous is their sin! I am going down to see if they have done all that they are charged with in the outcry that has reached me. If it is not so, I will not be angry."

The men with him turned away and went toward Sodom, but Yahweh remained standing before Abraham. Abraham went forward and said, "Will you really let the just perish with the wicked? Perhaps there are fifty good people in the town. Are you really going to let them perish? Would you not spare the place for the sake of these fifty righteous people? It would not be at all like you to do such a thing and you can't let the good perish with the wicked, nor treat the good and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the judge of all the earth be just?" Yahweh said, "If I find fifty good people in Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

Abraham spoke up again, "I know that I am very bold to speak like this to my Lord, but I am only dust and ashes! But perhaps the number of the good is five less than fifty. Will you destroy the town because of five?" Yahweh replied, "I will not destroy the town if I find forty-five good people there." Again Abraham said to him, "Perhaps there will be only forty." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Abraham went on, saying, "May my Lord not be angry, but let me speak. Maybe only thirty good people will be found in the town." Yahweh answered, "I will not destroy it if I find thirty there." Abraham said, "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to my Lord, when if only twenty can be found?" He said, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy the place."

But Abraham insisted, "May my Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found?" And Yahweh answered, "For the sake of ten good people, I will not destroy Sodom."

2nd Reading:  
I refer to baptism. On receiving it you were buried with Christ; and you also rose with him for having believed in the power of God who raised him from the dead.

You were dead. You were in sin and uncircumcised at the same time. But God gave you life with Christ. He forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of our debts, those regulations, which accused us. He did away with all that and nailed it to the cross.

God:  
One day Jesus was praying in a certain place and when he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." And Jesus said to them, "When you pray, say this:

Father, hallowed be your name, may your kingdom come, give us each day the kind of bread we need, and forgive us our sins, for we also forgive all who do us wrong, and do not bring us to the test."

Jesus said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to his house in the middle of the night and says: 'Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine who is traveling has just arrived and I have nothing to offer him.' Maybe your friend will answer from inside: 'Don't bother me now; the door is locked and my children and I are in bed, so I can't get up and give you anything.' But I tell you, even though he will not get up and attend to you because you are a friend, yet he will get up because you are a brother to him, and he will give you all you need."

And so I say to you, 'Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. For the one who asks receives, and the one who searches finds, and to him who knocks the door will be opened.'

If your child asks for a fish, will you give a snake instead? And if your child asks for an egg, will you give a scorpion? Even you evil people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more then will the Father in heaven give holy spirit to those who ask him!"

Commentary:

In his Gospel, Luke pays special attention to prayer and the need to pray constantly. Today's reading is an example of this concern. The teaching of the Lord's Prayer is complemented by a wider instruction about prayer. Prayer is asking for life in its various aspects. This life will be given abundantly to everyone who asks for it. Jesus indicates that the highest gift of the Father is the Holy Spirit and he invites his disciples to ask for this gift. Luke gives high prominence to the presence of the Holy Spirit. It is the power of God that brings to the fore the real dimensions of the human person as child of God.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the wonders of life. Grant us your Spirit to guide us on our way to your kingdom.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City, Tel: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@nsl.net; Websites: <http://www.bible.script.org> (Claretian Publications Inc., & <http://missionaries.claret.org> (Claretians in the Philippines)

## SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CRIMINAL PROCEDURE)/CRIMINAL LAW (CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY)—Attendant circumstances in rape cases must be alleged. The attendant circumstances for rape in order that they may properly qualify the crime to the penalty specially prescribed by law. This is based on the fundamental principle that every element of which the offense is composed must be alleged in the complaint or information, the main purpose of the various elements of a crime to be set out in its information is to enable the accused to suitably prepare his defense. He is presumed to have no independent knowledge of the facts that constitute his offense. In the case of bar, the complaint filed against the accused, under which he was arraigned, accused him of raping by means of force and intimidation employed "a minor, 14 years of age" without, however, any allegations of the relationship between accused-appellant and the victim. Accused-appellant can only be convicted of simple rape and cannot be held liable for qualified rape in the absence of any allegation of the requisite relationship in the complaint or information. Even if such relationship was duly proved during the trial, still such proof cannot be considered to convict accused-appellant of qualified rape and to consequently impose on him the death penalty since he would thereby be deemed to have committed the offense to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation against him. [Citations omitted.] [En banc, Justice Bellosillo, Poopie, delamer, G. R. No. 136102, January 31, 2001]

DIGEST BY R. B. VERA



FEAR and fire drive residents of Gagalangin, Tondo into a frenzy as they try to save their belongings

## 2 kids die in Tondo fire

BY JEROME ANING

A 6-YEAR-OLD girl and her 5-year-old brother were killed in a fire that lasted almost 11 hours in thickly populated Gagalangin in Tondo, Manila on Friday night.

The fire also destroyed 300 houses—mostly squatter residences along the Philippine National Railways tracks—and small commercial establishments, leaving about 600 families homeless.

Fire authorities estimated damage to property at P100 million.

PO2 Oscar Rupero of the Manila fire department identified the children as Judele Fernando and her brother Jofel, whose remains were found in their gutted house. The fireman said the children's father Leonardo, 38, was among at least 10 people injured in the blaze.

Residents said they saw smoke and flames rising from the wooden walls of the house near the place where the sloop was being cooked. But fire investigators have yet to confirm that account.

Leonardo told firefighters that in the confusion, he thought Jofel and Judele were following him and his wife as they fled from their burning house, taking with them all the clothes and valuables they could carry.

The fire started about 8:15 p.m. at a boarding house owned by one Chentia Muawin at 695-Q Jolivon II on Laguna Street Extension.

Residents told arson investigators that Walter and Lorna Salinas, who were renting a room in Muawin's house, reportedly had a fight and could have forgotten to watch the *kamig baboy* (pig slop) they were cooking outside the house.

Residents said they saw smoke and flames rising from the wooden walls of the house near the place where the sloop was being cooked. But fire investigators have yet to confirm that account.

PO2 Rupero said the blaze spread

quickly because most of the houses were made of light materials. From Laguna Street, the fire spread to adjoining neighborhoods on Dagupan Street Extension, Maria Guzon Street and a portion of Antipolo Street.

The fire also damaged a Meralco substation and several posts, plunging into darkness much of western Manila and portions of southern Caloocan City.

The blaze reached general alarm status and was put out at 6:44 a.m. yesterday.

Around 11 a.m., President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Mayor Lito Atienza visited the residents affected by the fire in barangay halls, public schools and sports complexes that were converted into evacuation centers.

The President and the mayor distributed relief goods to the evacuees. Atienza promised to shoulder the funeral expenses of the Fernando siblings.

## Jealousy suspected in abduction of Mutya

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

POLICE are looking into the possibility that Mutya ng Caloocan beauty title holder Steena Marie Gumabon may have been abducted by an alleged lesbian because the latter was jealous of the girl's relationship with Caloocan officer-in-charge Rey Malonzo's 17-year-old son.

Malonzo's son and Gumabon, 16, reportedly have been involved in a romantic relationship for seven months now.

Yesterday, Malonzo said he received three text messages yesterday morning, supposedly from the missing girl, assuring him that she had not been abducted.

However, Malonzo said he could not confirm if the messages were authentic because his phone did not register the phone number of the person who sent the messages.

Malonzo admitted that Gumabon has been close to his family since she won the Mutya ng Caloocan contest in February. But he declined to comment on her alleged romantic relationship with his son.

"That is a personal matter between them," Malonzo said. "But, yes, she has become close to our family."

He said he even provided a scholarship for Gumabon at the Manila Central University in Caloocan but he later learned that she attended her classes only for a week.

Gumabon has been missing since July 17 after she was allegedly abducted by Leah Reyes, 28.

On Friday, the girl's mother, Hermesa, told police that Reyes might have forced her daughter to work in a Quezon City bar.

Caloocan police also confirmed that Gumabon has been seen working as a guest relations officer (GRO) in Quezon City bars.

## Man kills wife over nagging

BY BLANCHE S. RIVERA

WHEN contract worker Virginia Muduc came home from overseas, her husband met her not with a warm welcome but with a bullet in the head in Mandaluyong City Friday night.

Muduc, 33, died on the spot while her husband Roldan took off with the handgun, police said.

SPO1 Virgilio Reyes said in his initial report that the couple had been arguing in their house at the Welfareville Compound in Barangay Addition Hills about 6 p.m. Friday.

Police believed Roldan was upset because she had been constantly nagging him for allegedly seeing another woman on the sly.

The couple's argument abruptly ended when a single shot rang out in their house, police said.

Police could not confirm when the wife returned to the country or how long she would have stayed.

The husband is said to be still in Metro Manila, police said.



FIRST STRIKE  
More than a month after June 2 when they went on strike for the first time in the 22-year history of the historic Club Filipino in Greenhills, San Juan, the workers have not given up in trying to make management go into a collective bargaining agreement with them.

EDWIN BACASNAS

## Green groups reject Atienza deadline

BY JEROME ANING

CONSERVATION and environmental groups seeking to preserve the Mehan Gardens yesterday said they are against the two-week deadline set by Manila Mayor Lito Atienza for the acquisition of an alternative site for the City College of Manila campus.

The mayor set the deadline on July 17, giving the groups only two weeks to finalize the land-swap deal between City Hall and the Department of Tourism.

Conservationists hope the new CCM campus will be built on the DOT-owned property in Intramuros—site of the old

Atienza warned that the CCM campus might still be built on Mehan if no alternative site would be found. He has also written the Heritage Conservation Society, one of the groups opposed to the construction, advising it that the deadline is less than a week away.

Last month, at the height of the controversy created by the proposed construction on Mehan, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment formed a committee to look for another site for the college.

The body, composed of conservationists, City Hall officials and representatives of the National Historical Institute,

stated and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, recommended the old Ateneo, the Ramon Avanceña High School in Quiapo and another public school in Tondo.

Atienza said he would write the DOT regarding the site, but Testa said

Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon is currently out of the country. She said the conservationists were not aware if Atienza had already written the letter.

The CCM construction had not yet

started when the DENR issued a cease-and-desist order against it for the city government's failure to obtain a permit to cut and prune trees in the park.

## No end in sight to Malonzo-Asistio poll feud

BY GERALD G. LACUARTA

AND another week has passed.

The Commission on Elections' examining to meet the Supreme Court deadline on the party-list disqualification cases has delayed by another week the resolution of the impasse in Caloocan City involving the camps of city officer-in-charge Rey Malonzo and challenger Luis Asistio Jr.

Last week ended with the Comelec co-

ming still unable to release the decision on the petition filed by Asistio asking the poll body to declare a failure of the May 14 election in Caloocan due to alleged fraud and massive disenfranchisement of voters.

It has been nine working days since Comelec Commissioner Litzvina Linda Tancangco released a draft resolution on July 16 and had it circulated among the six other members of the en banc for their signature. The other members of the en banc may concur or dissent with

# No turning back for screen's latest bombshell

WHAT does a sweet, sexy, young star do when she turns 18?

For Assunta de Rossi, turning 18 means being ready to take the bold route to stardom. After appearing in a series of light drama and comedy flicks, Assunta bares her body on the big screen in her launching picture, Regal Entertainment's "Red Diaries."

The young Filipino-Italian beauty has now become the latest fantasy of an army of male fans. She has a couple of breast exposure scenes in "Red Diaries," plus a lot of other sexy scenes, which explain the film's R-18 rating.

Assunta's bold scenes in "Red Diaries" have created quite a stir in local cinema. Many insiders expect her topless scenes to shock filmgoers.

"But Assunta is really ready," notes Regal executive Roselle Monteverde. "She just wanted to turn 18 before she did this movie. She has the body to display onscreen. Her Italian features are very strong and I guess that's one of her biggest assets, aside from her acting talent."

In "Red Diaries," Assunta does a fiery topless dance sequence. It's a seduction scene where she takes off her clothes and dances before an aging man (Dante Rivero), while his driver (Anton Bernardo) secretly watches from behind a door.

Assunta reveals she has given it a lot of thought before going the bold route.

"There's no turning back now," Assunta says of her bold role.

However, some people contend she's too young to show her bare body. Others who have followed her career path — from "That's Entertainment" to TV's top-rating gag show, "Bubble Gang" — were surprised at her career move.

But Assunta considers "Red Diaries" as the biggest challenge in her career.

"This is indeed a major breakthrough for me," Assunta says of her launching picture. "What convinced me to go daring in 'Red Diaries' are the compelling performances the movie required of me. It's only now that I get this break, a movie with very difficult roles."

"I believe doing this movie is the best career move I've made. Other young stars would die for this break. I'm very fortunate to get this buildup from Regal."

In "Red Diaries," Assunta plays three different characters: a kept woman whose romances with many men end up in a bizarre triangle; a homecoming maiden who is the object of desire of a native teenage seminarian; and a battered wife who hatches a scheme against her violent husband.

Assunta passed all three roles with flying colors, says noted director like Mary J. de los Reyes, who was at the helm of "Red Diaries."

De los Reyes is confident that the star-building effort poured in by Regal to Assunta's launching picture, will not go wasted.

"Pretty soon, her name will be synonymous with erotic drama," Maryj says. "Her big advan-

tage is that she is a young, sexy actress with fiery Italian appeal, but still with a seductively sweet Filipino naivete which forms her exceptional charm."

Assunta feels honored to work with Direk Mayo in her launching picture.

"He was able to motivate me very well," she says of her director. "He's very intense. He knows how to bring out the best in you. It's really different when you work with a good director. You learn a lot from him."

Regal producer Lily Monteverde, known for launching sex sirens, from Rio Locsin to Ruffa Gutierrez, is positive she has a new big star in Assunta.

Regal already has other projects lined up for Assunta, including movies with directors Joel Lamangan and Mel Chionglo.

Also in the cast of "Red Diaries" are Carlos Morales and Pilar Pilapil, with newcomers Jam Melendez and Dante Gomez.

## Alcasid originals

OGIE Alcasid has carved an enviable status as a hitmaker, both as a singer and composer

A number of Ogie's original compositions are now being played on the airwaves.

Regine Velasquez recently propelled an

Alcasid original to the top of the music charts with "Pangako," the theme of her movie of the same title with Aga Muhlach.

The song marks Ogie's second hit collaboration with Regine, after last year's "Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw," which was also used as the theme of Regine's movie with

Another Alcasid composition, "Kulang Pa Ba?," is turning out to be a big hit for Manilyn Reynes.

Meanwhile, Ogie has just released "Reality,"

the second single culled from his latest album,

"Movie Moments." "Reality" is the theme from the foreign movie, "Ready for Love."

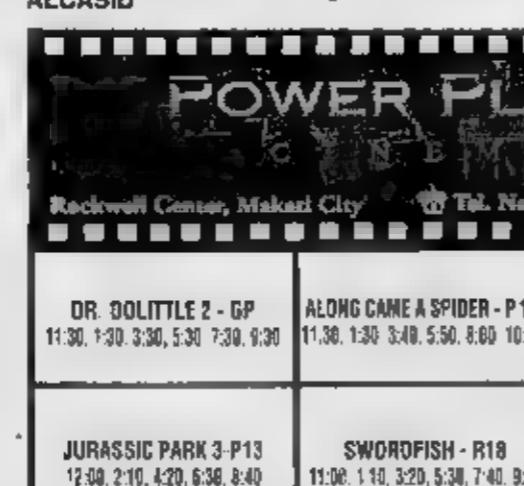
In the concert scene, Ogie will be the special guest in the Aug. 10 concert of Freestyle at the Araneta Coliseum. The

pop band recorded a hit version of an Alcasid original, "Bakit Ngayon Ka Lang."

Ogie is also busy pre-



YOUNG AND WILLING. Assunta thinks putting on a sexy image is the best career move she's done so far.



ALCASID



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**SKEET ULRICH TOBEY MAGUIRE JEFFREY WRIGHT**

Ang Lee ("The Ice Storm," "Sense and Sensibility" & "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon"), once again takes audiences on a journey to a different time and place, and into his characters' internal conflicts. A cast of rising young stars portray young Americans, striving to define themselves and the country they had always called home, amidst national turmoil. The screenplay for "Ride with the Devil" is adapted by Lee's longtime collaborator, James Schamus, from Daniel Woodrell's novel "Woe to Loja On."



## Joey Albert concert at Music Museum

JOEY Albert's concert, previously set for July 28 and Aug. 4 at Captain's Bar of Mandarin Oriental, has been moved to Aug. 10 and 11 at the Music Museum, 8:30 p.m.

Presented by ALV Productions, Music Museum and Cerveza Negra, with Wels Empire, the concert, dubbed "Once More," will showcase Joey's popular hits such as "Tell Me," "Points of View," "Lisa Pa Lamang," "Yakapin Mo Ako," "I Remember the Boy," and some classic disco and R&B favorites.

Special guest is Jeffrey Hidalgo, with Gerard Salonga as musical director.

"Once More" is also sponsored by Alberto Shoes and [www.musiko.com](http://www.musiko.com).

Tickets are available at the Music Museum (721-0635/721-2676), all major National Bookstore and Ticketworld outlets and ALV Productions (637-7014 to 18).

## Cat & Dogs

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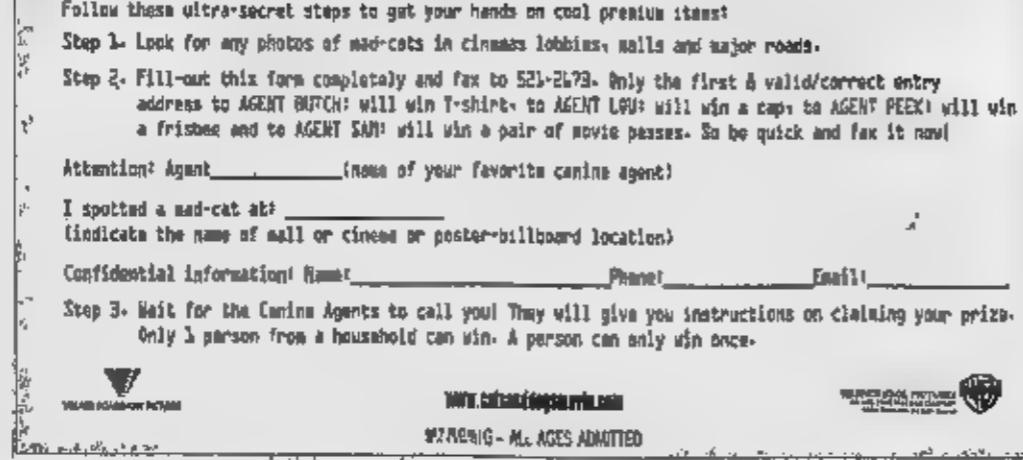
Step 2. Fill-out this form completely and fax to 521-2673. Only the first 8 valid/correct entry address to AGENT BUTCH will win T-shirt, to AGENT LOU will win a cap, to AGENT PEK will win a frisbee and to AGENT SAM will win a pair of movie passes. So be quick and fax it now!

Attention: Agent \_\_\_\_\_ (name of your favorite canine agent)

I spotted a mad-cat at \_\_\_\_\_ (indicate the name of mall or cinema or poster-billboard location)

Confidential information: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Step 3. Wait for the Canine Agents to call you! They will give you instructions on claiming your prize. Only 1 person from a household can win. A person can only win once.



**MTRCB RATING** **PG-13** **Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.**

The film contains language which young audiences may find disturbing. Parents and guardians are strongly cautioned against bringing children 13 years and below.

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August 2001



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1. Tune-in to Metro Manila radio stations 99.9 DWFM, 105.1 Crossover, 101.1 107.5 and wait for the DJ to ask the question: "What is Bridget Jones's Diary entry for the day?"

2. To get the answer, key-in BJDIAIRY and send it to 2324. You should then receive the latest diary entry from Bridget Jones's Mobile via Text Message.

Example of diary entry:

8st 31. Have gained weight overnight! How?? Have checked pillows and all are present.

No sign that have I been inadvertently consuming soft furnishings in sleep.

3. Call the radio station and read the diary entry/text message.

4. Radio DJ shall verify if message is indeed the one from Bridget Jones's Mobile. If correct, you'll win two (2) tickets for the premiere of Bridget Jones's Diary on August 4, 2001, Glorietta 4, Cinema 8 at 7:30 PM.

5. Winners of Bridget Jones premiere tickets can claim their prize at the participating radio stations starting July 27. Please bring a valid ID and your Globe Handyphone for verification. The station will check both the valid ID and see if the subscribers are indeed Globe subscribers by checking their number (which should start with 0917 or 0916).

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**Olivarez Tri-Cinema**  
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**Olivarez Tagaytay**  
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**Morales Cinema**  
tel (049) 511-9736  
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**Cabuyao**  
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531-4838  
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**Fourstep**  
(Cainta) tel (046) 416-2385  
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**Emperor**  
(Barrio Carito) tel (046) 458-7657  
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**Fiesta World Mall**  
(Lipa) tel (043) 781-0790  
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**Jade Cinema**  
( Angeles City) tel (045) 887-5003 to 03  
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# ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

## Do we really need a two-hour newscast?

## VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

WHEN we first heard that PTV-Channel 4 (now known as the National Broadcasting Network) was launching a two-hour weeknight newscast, we were impressed. Most other channels report the news for 30 minutes—one hour, tops. Channel 4's new "TeleDyaryo," telecast M-F from 8-10, showed that the government station valued the news enough to give it really exhaustive treatment each weeknight.

So, on July 17, we made time to watch the newscast from start to finish, to see if it would live up to its advance blurbs. Alas, it turned out to be not only exhaustive, but also exhausting.

Anchors Gani Oro and Chino Trinidad started with the day's headlines. Oro made a big deal about the new program's being a *pahayagan sa telesiyon*. Was this, in fact, a plus factor? The concept is dated.

The show prides itself on its "live remote" reports from different parts of the metropolis. That capability is a plus factor, but some technical glitches made its implementation that might less than overwhelmingly impressive.

After 30 minutes of reportage, we began to see some of the program's strengths and weaknesses. It went into a *lot* of details, which was initially helpful, but soon became much too much.

Also, we found ourselves getting ticked off by the excessive "traffic" between anchors and field reporters. Oro would introduce an item which Trinidad would elaborate on before the actual report from a field reporter, that sort of long-winded thing.

Also, there were too many capsule previews of items to be dealt with at length in the next portion.

And, to top it all, after about 45 minutes, there was a recap of the headlines!

And there were breakers like an ongoing viewers poll, plus an occasional "Alam Ba Ninyo" series that focused that night on (of all things) birds' eggs. There were also segment newscasters reporting on the stock market (he sounded like he was delivering a speech) and the foreign news.

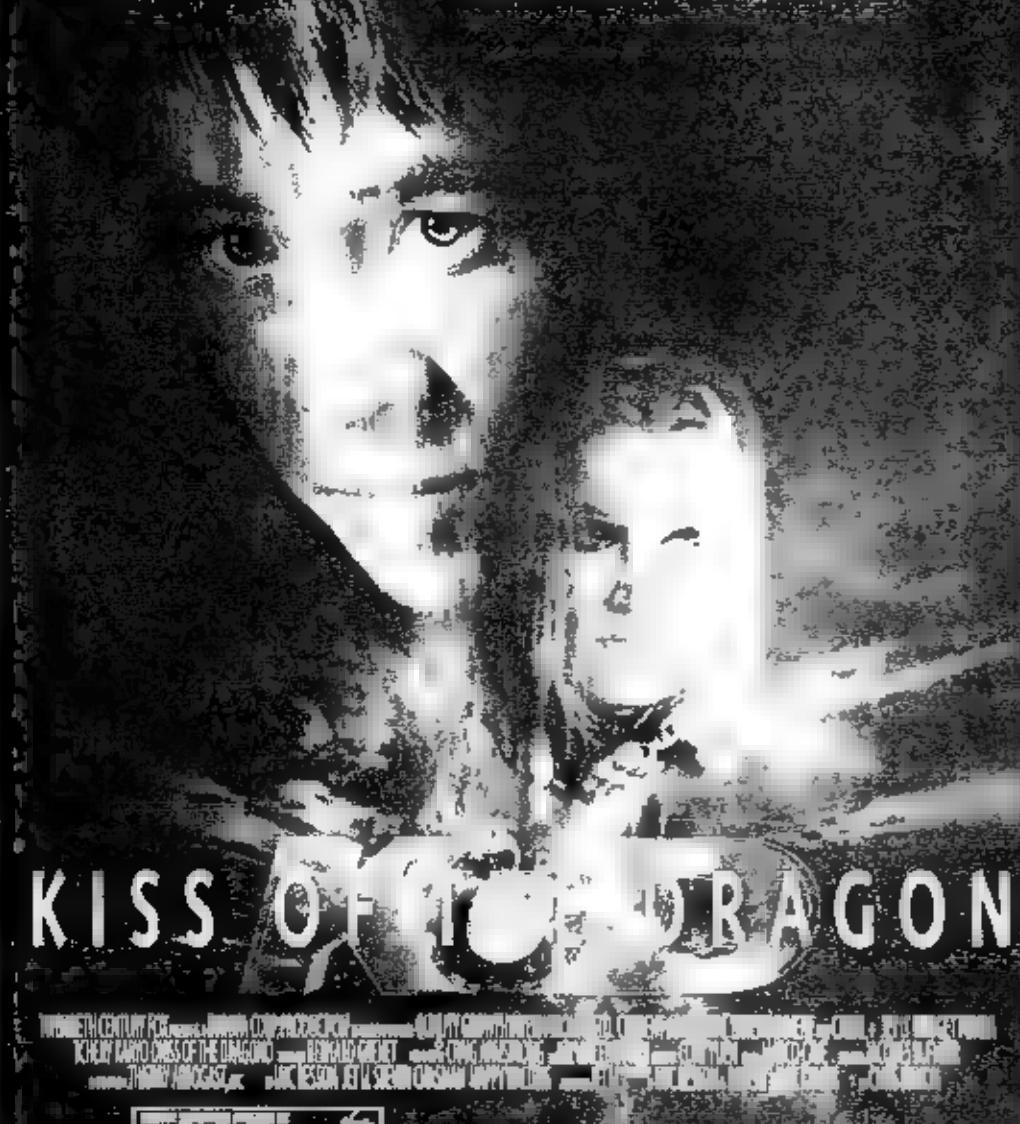
After one hour, the long newscast was interrupted by the PCSO Lotto Draw, which went into excessive detail on the "judges" certifying that the process was on the up-

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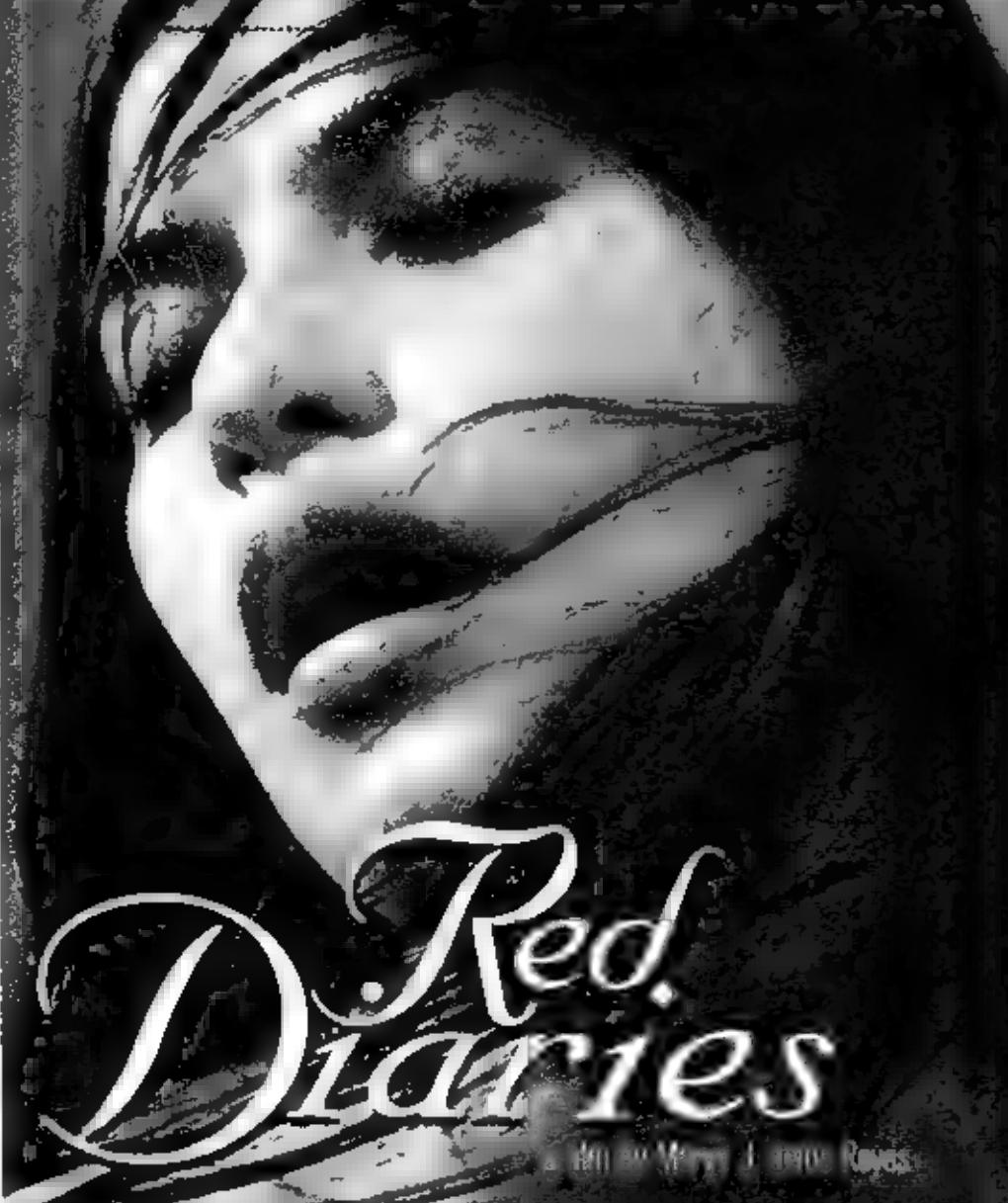
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GRAND OPENING - TUESDAY JULY 31!

MALL TOUR JULY 31, 2001 SM-MANILA 11:00AM SM CENTERPOINT 1:00PM  
SM NORTH 3:00PM SM FAIRVIEW 5:00PM SM MEGA 7:00PMMTRCB R Strictly for ADULTS  
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ASSUNTA BARES ALL HER SECRET

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THEY'RE HIP

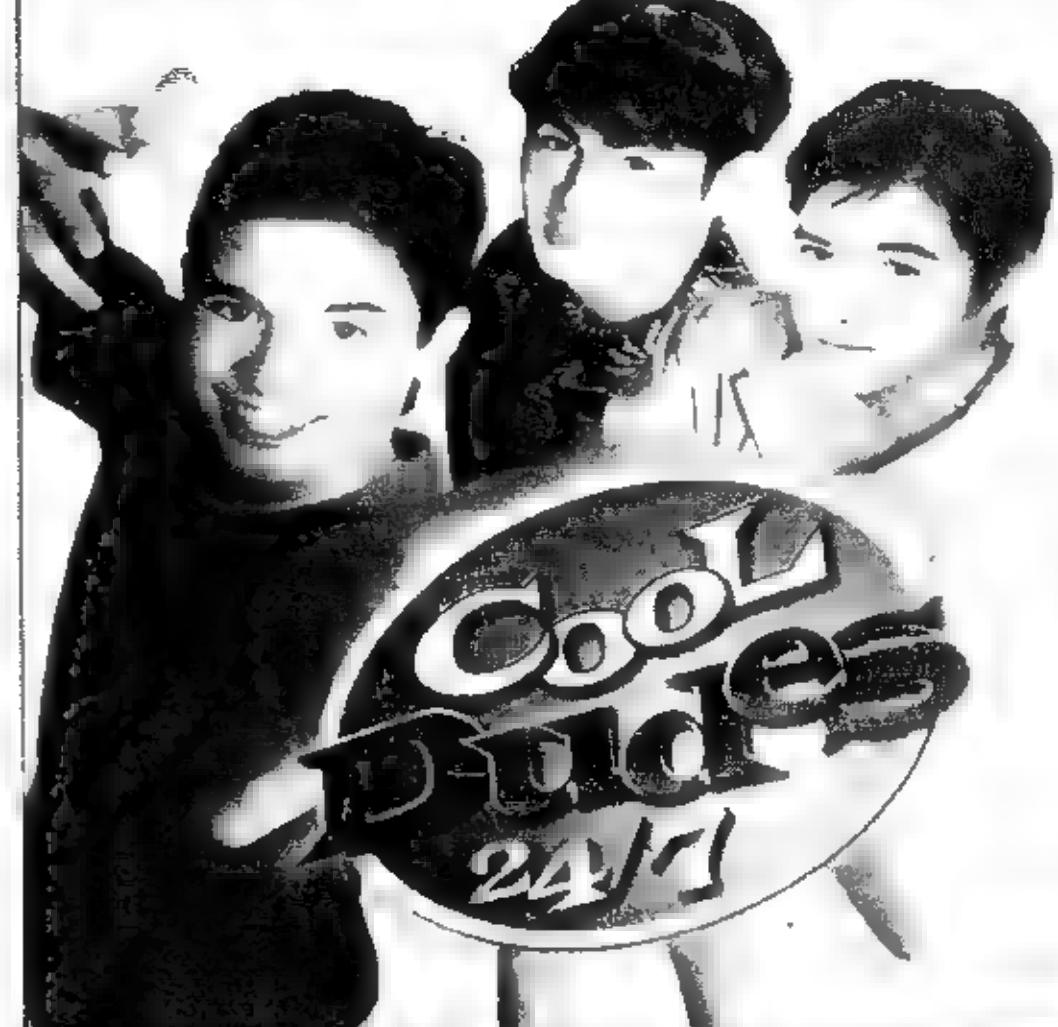


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SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2001

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**Sunday BIZ**

RAUL O. MARCELLO, Editor | MARGIE QUIMPO-ESPINO, Business Features Editor



# Math whiz tutored for P15 a session

BY TINA ARCEO-DUMLAO

**R**ENATO "Ato" Vergel de Dios was born to a family of means, his father being a businessman who ran a gasoline station and his mother a member of the Arce family that used to own Selecta ice cream.

But with eight brothers and sisters, him being the fourth, there was just enough money to make sure that they had good food to eat, went to the best schools in the Philippines and occasional outings and splurges. Anything extra they wanted, they had to find a way to get it themselves.

And in college, Ato found a perfect way to earn his own pocket money by tutoring high school students in math and science. It

as his "teachers" at the Ateneo who referred him to his "clients." He did not realize that it was a big market, and he earned enough to buy his own food and even go out on dates.

"There was a time when all nine of us were in school at the same time, so it was a little difficult so I thought of finding a way to help out. When I started tutoring these students, I told my Dad that I will take care

MATH/B2



THE ACTUARIAL trainee, who later became the CEO of Manulife Financial, shares a joke with the agents during his earlier years as sales director



DUSIT Hotel's Sandra Garcia inherited her gift of gab from her father

## Humor and sincerity help in dealing with different folks

**F**ROM celebrities like Madonna and millionaire Jews in the US, to the most miserable *aetas* in Zamboanga, Sandra Garcia, marketing director of Dusit Hotel Manila, has dealt with almost all kinds of people in her 23-year career in the hospitality industry.

It always helps, she says, to show that you can do the job to get the respect you crave, no matter who you are dealing with. Having a keen sense of humor is a bonus.

"You will always meet arrogant and pleasant people. The key is to deal with them with humility and sincerity. Sometimes you really have to bend backwards," she says.

This was particularly true when she worked in the US. She had to deal with discrimination, being a minority. In her first job here, she was actually put in charge of the so-called ethnic market, which meant clients who are not Americans.

This was at the Hyatt LA along Wilshire Boulevard, where her clients included the well-heeled members of the Jewish Lady's group who were somewhat snobbish. But she was able to show them she could get the job done, eventually earning their grudging respect.

She also had jocks for clients like the members of the LA Dodgers and the University of Southern California football team.

"I could not fathom why they would eat a stack of pancakes, a huge steak, a pitcher of orange juice, cereals, bacon, scrambled eggs and grit barely two hours before a game," she recalls.

When a Jewish customer walked in asking if they served kosher food, she simply said yes without knowing what the word means. This was back in the '70s.

"I had to rush to a dictionary to find out what it means," she says.

When she moved to the LA Registry, which became the Universal Hilton, her clients included Hollywood celebrities like Madonna and Rod Stewart who would hold some of their receptions in the hotel.

The ease, however, with which she handled varied personalities and situations stems from her early exposure to people.

"Our house was like a halfway house, there were always people at home," Garcia says, explaining that her father was a prominent lawyer.

When she was young, she would be asked by her father to entertain some of his guests by dancing a Hawaiian number.

She says she and her siblings inherited the gift of gab from her father who genuinely liked people and dealt with them extensively.

From her mom, she says, they got their ability to write.

"My mom had a bachelor's degree in Philosophy and majored in Journalism. She was a walking encyclopedia and was our dictionary. She made us write poems and essays at an early age," she says.

Her eldest brother, Greg, started as a working student, juggling his studies and work in an advertising agency.

Garcia says all the younger kids wanted to follow in his footsteps, thus, most of them ended up working in ad agencies.

HUMOR/B3

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Ford offers you best-selling trucks at best-selling schemes. First, we'll free you from heavy payments by offering the Ford Expedition, Ford Chateau Wagon and Ford Explorer Sport Trac in 13 easy payments. Next, we'll also give you 6 months interval in interest-free payments. Only from Ford. Because no other company knows the mechanics of freedom like we do.

**FORD EXPEDITION**

P1,550,000 SRP	P585,000 DOWNPAYMENT	6 months freedom from payment	P585,000 PAYMENT 1	6 months freedom from payment	P585,000 PAYMENT 2
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**FORD CHATEAU WAGON**

P1,350,000 SRP	P480,000 DOWNPAYMENT	6 months freedom from payment	P480,000 PAYMENT 1	6 months freedom from payment	P480,000 PAYMENT 2
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**FORD EXPLORER SPORT TRAC**

P1,375,000 SRP	P490,000 DOWNPAYMENT	6 months freedom from payment	P490,000 PAYMENT 1	6 months freedom from payment	P490,000 PAYMENT 2
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**SPECIAL CASH TRANSACTION PRICE: P1,327,000** **BY INTEREST FINANCING PLANS ALSO AVAILABLE**

**FORD EXPLORER SPORT TRAC**

**FORD CHATEAU WAGON**

**FORD EXPEDITION**

**FORD EXPLORER**

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IN YOUR FACE



**THE FEISTY** Vivian Yuchengco can never be described as quiet. She always speaks her mind, and is sometimes found to be too frank for comfort by some people. But behind all the talk is a woman with a soft heart, and she will never admit it.



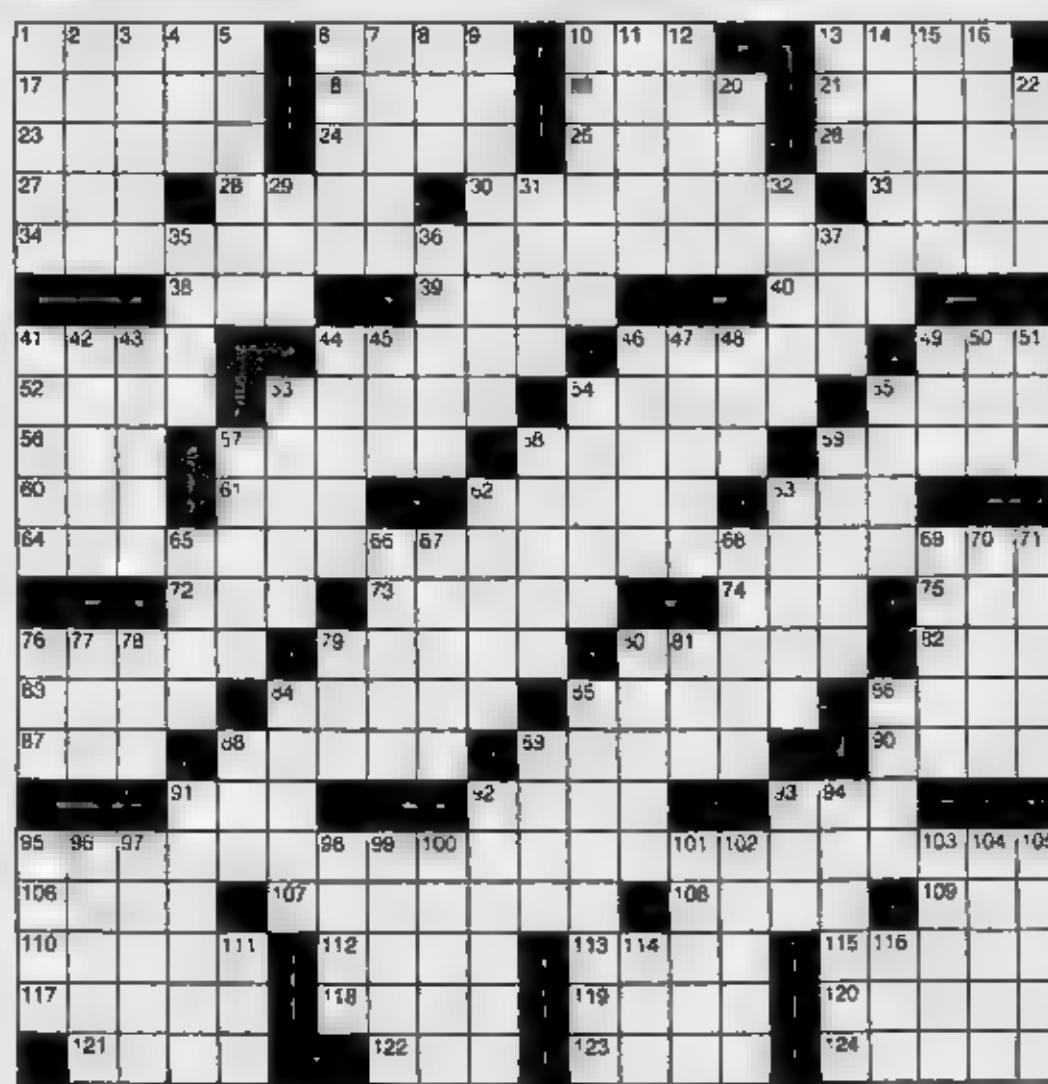
**BUILDING** Homes, Building Hope. Petron president and CEO Motassim A. Al-Ma'ashouq (center) hands over a check to Mr. Fernando Zobel de Ayala, Chairman of World Leaders Build 2001. Petron continues to foster corporate volunteerism through its Volunteerism in Action (VIA) program by supporting Habitat for Humanity's World Leaders Build. Petron employees volunteers will build ten houses in various locations across the country from August 6-10 2001. Looking on is Housing Secretary Michael Defensor.

## SUNDAY CROSSWORD

### STRIKE ONE!

#### ACROSS

1 Resembling 6 Lowdown lit  
6 Lowdown lit  
10 Small shot  
13 Ellipse  
17 Prompts  
18 Sheet of stamps  
19 — League  
21 Send payment  
23 Buenos —  
24 Computer image  
25 Non-stereo  
26 Praise for Pavarotti  
27 "Norma —" (79 film)  
28 Bruins' sch.  
30 "Ade" author  
33 List entry  
34 Start of a remark by Will Rogers  
38 Author LeShan  
39 About  
40 Very cold  
41 Mets' milieus  
44 Artist Neiman  
46 Steakhouse order  
49 Kasbah cap  
52 Printed matter  
53 Hook on a hawk  
54 Wall Street spoilers  
55 Pot base  
56 Code letters  
57 Prominent Hatch?  
58 Gardener's delight  
59 So out it's in  
60 Bow  
61 Playground game  
62 Uncool ones  
63 Who stoops to conquer  
64 Middle of remark  
72 Snaky swimmer  
73 Actor Lorenzo  
74 Logical letters  
75 "Knots Landing" chapter  
76 Yankee Derek  
79 Nickel creature  
80 Toughen up  
82 Dachshund declaration  
83 Surrounded by  
84 Dedicated to defamation  
85 Laotian native  
86 "La Boheme" seamstress  
87 Lave the linoleum  
88 Part of a process  
89 Black piano key  
90 Spirit  
91 — Lanka  
92 Mut of mystery  
93 — relief  
95 End of remark  
106 Corner a cat  
107 Indy 500 figure  
108 Actress Freeman  
109 Fury's food  
110 Destined to diet  
112 Lost  
113 Ultimate whale watcher?  
115 Former African nation



#### DOWN

1 Peck part  
2 A Heep of Dickens  
3 Come around  
4 Look at  
5 Sent out  
6 Like some milk  
7 Jungle bird  
8 Top numero  
9 "In Memoriam" poet  
10 Hefty grass  
11 Witch wheels?  
12 Low-octane Joe?  
13 Sphere  
14 Prove  
15 Famed figure in fiddles  
16 Bile producer  
20 Opus  
22 Magnum opus  
29 R.E. Lee's govt.  
31 Part of DA

117 Actress Marisa  
118 Gatt of "Mr. Mom"  
119 Theater section  
120 New York city  
121 Salamander  
122 57 Across, e.g.  
123 Look like a leech  
124 Com. treaty

125 Scores in ones  
35 Best  
36 Hitter Hank  
37 Sail through  
41 Scarecrow stuffing  
42 Monsieur Matisse  
43 Precise  
44 A particular Key  
45 Lilly of pharmaceuticals  
46 Mans the bar  
47 Met men

48 Some trimmings  
50 Bungle  
51 Gnat center?  
53 Seek out a school?  
54 Conifer coverings  
55 Really rain  
57 Sleek swimmer  
58 Some kind of a nut  
59 — Island  
60 — Island  
62 "In Search of . . ." host  
63 Unyielding  
65 Pay attention to  
66 Open the mail  
67 Discreet  
68 Hunker down  
69 Serve a purpose  
70 Fate

# The economy, the blind men and the elephant

BY ROMULO L. NERI

IT IS during troubled times that simple folk seek out fortune tellers, in the same way that the more educated consult social scientists in an effort to clarify a problem, divine the future and map out a course of action thereafter.

And because of the saying "it takes one to know one," to this day, I am still bounded by persistent inquirers. They want me to explain "Why did most economists fail to predict the Asian financial crisis of 1997?" in hopes that as we enter a new political era and another economic cycle, the shape of things to come will be influenced by painful lessons learned.

The economy is like a large elephant and the economists are the blind men who are trying to reach a consensus on the nature of the elephant. Most economists, when analyzing the economy, normally consider the following: GNP/GDP, savings rate, investment rate, fiscal indicators, monetary indicators, exports and imports.

Using the elephant metaphor for the economy, we can say that the GNP/GDP represents the solid sides of the elephant. A strong GNP/GDP performance indicates that the elephant is muscular and not scrawny. Savings and investments are the two front legs of the elephant.

When savings and investments are strong, the elephant has the ability to move forward quickly. Monetary and fiscal policies are the hind legs that support the elephant's forward movement while acting as the elephant's stabilizers. Export receipts can be likened to the elephant's food from the external environment while import payments can represent the elephant's excretion.

The elephant's ears may represent the currency's exchange rate. Some amateur economic analysts use the exchange rate as an indicator of the economy's health. Using the exchange rate as the gauge for the economy's health is like saying the elephant has big ears, therefore it is healthy.

But when the ears flap too much,

they can indicate nervousness. From another vantage point, the ear movements also stabilize the elephant's internal temperature the same way that freezing exchange rate movements allows for a more stable internal economy.

Going back to the Asian financial crisis, in fact, most economic indicators showed strong flourishing Asian economies from 1990-1995, and by

• GNP/GDP growth rates were high: Korea, 7.1 percent; Indonesia, 7.8 percent; Malaysia, 8.6 percent; Philippines, 5.8 percent; and Thailand 5.5 percent.

• Savings/GDP rate was high: Korea, 33.7 percent; Indonesia, 27.3 percent; Malaysia, 42.6 percent; Philippines, 18.5 percent; and Thailand, 33.7 percent.

• Investment/GDP rate was high: Korea, 38.4 percent; Indonesia, 30.7 percent; Malaysia, 41.5 percent; Philippines, 23.1 percent; and Thailand, 41.7 percent.

• Monetary (inflation rate) indicator was stable: Korea, 5 percent; Indonesia, 7.9 percent; Malaysia, 3.5 percent; Philippines, 9.1 percent; and Thailand, 5.9 percent.

• Fiscal Balance/GDP was stable: Korea, 0.5 percent; Indonesia, 0.2 percent; Malaysia, 0.7 percent; Philippines, 0.3 percent; and Thailand, 2.4 percent.

However, data showed that current account balances were somewhat problematic, i.e., imports were exceeding exports: Korea, 4.7 percent; Indonesia, 3.4 percent; Malaysia, 5.0 percent; Philippines, 4.7 percent; and Thailand, 7.9 percent.

This prompted a rather pertinent question relative to our elephant metaphor: Was the behemoth having diarrhea? Authoritative economists have explained this by saying that countries that grew fast had to import a lot of machinery and materials to support their high investment and GDP growth.

The argument seems to be that economists (a.k.a. blind men) failed to consider the internal workings of the elephant, i.e., the enterprises (called micro-economy by economists), the banking system (considered neutral by Keynesian economists), and the political

governance system.

The enterprises form the elephant's digestive and nourishment systems, while the banking system is the circulatory part of the elephant (with money as the lifeblood of the economic system). The political governance systems form the elephant's brains and nerves.

The causes of the financial crisis are rooted in an enterprise system that invested in questionable projects that resulted in financial losses, a weak and poorly

regulated banking system that diverted financial savings into lending to these questionable projects and a political governance system that tolerated and even encouraged such wastage of economic and financial resources.

The Philippines came out of the financial crisis relatively unscathed, owing to a capable enterprise system with competent professional managers and a banking system that tended to be more careful than its counterparts in Asia.

However, some economists maintain that the reason that we escaped the worse aspects of the crisis was because foreign capital came in rather late and therefore, the Philippines borrowed less.

But what is now more perplexing is why the Philippines did not surge ahead in the race for economic recovery post the financial crisis, considering that it was the least affected?

As we have pointed out on many occasions, our problem seems to lie in the political governance system. While the rest of the crisis-stricken Asia rushed to repair its enterprise, banking and political governance systems, the Philippines remained complacent and eventually got mired in negative investor sentiment.

This absence of confidence stemmed from investor worries over political governance, with a government



perceived as lacking a clear policy direction, and one that tolerated and even encouraged crony interference in public policies.

With chronic crony capitalism, enterprise rules are seen as flexible to favor those close to persons in power, with the greater national interest sacrificed in the process. Predictably, investors will avoid such a system since this raises the cost of doing business to intolerable levels.

Put in another way, would good players join a game when the referee is perceived to be partial?

Indeed, the health of the elephant's brain is crucial to its well-being. In the global economic environment, nations compete for investment through good governance since everything else—equipment, financial capital, technology, technical skills and corporate management—can be imported.

Unfortunately for us, only political governance is non-tradable. We cannot import competent and honest government officials, and neither can we export politicians or corrupt bureaucrats. Good governance has to be homegrown. Without a well-functioning brain, the elephant will fail to reach its proper feeding grounds and eventually starve to death.

(Excerpt from the author's "Economics & Public Policy, Aim 2001")

## Math whiz tutored . . .

(From page B1)

of my own *baon*. Between what I learned from tutoring and helping out in the gasoline station, I even had enough for a date," Ato tells Sunday BIZ.

The math major in Ateneo earned P15 per two-to-three-hour tutoring lesson in 1972. It was big enough, he says, considering that his *baon* was P50 a week.

"I started teaching this young girl from St. Theresa's college who was on a home study program because she was something of a radical. I taught her trigonometry. Eventually word got around and I started teaching physics, algebra and chemistry to high school students," Ato says.

Ato continued tutoring until he finished his BS Math degree from the Ateneo after going through two years of Engineering at the De La Salle University. He was then ready to face the real world of the working people.

Ato says he was offered a teaching job at the Ateneo but he felt that he was not made for teaching so he tried the corporate world.

"Since most of my family was in business, I did not really have an idea about the corporate world. I did not know what my math course was good for. The school did not really prepare you for when you get out of school, so I just went through Ayala Avenue and submitted my resume to all kinds of companies," he explains.

He eventually went through the rigorous application process at Ayala Corp. He got as far as being interviewed by the top people of Ayala for a management trainee position. The application process was taking some time that he was feeling restless. It was at that time that he was offered another job.

"My dad had a friend who worked in Phlamlife and he put in a good word for me but I still went through the tests and I passed. It was in 1974 and I was going 21 years old and I don't know, but the first time I went to Phlamlife I had a good feeling about it immediately," Ato relates.

He was paid P450 a month at the time when the prevailing minimum wage was about P380 a month. He was hired as an actuarial trainee, which means he was a lowly member of the technical staff of the actuarial department.

"I did odd jobs like adding numbers using these calculators that at the time occupied half the table. But my best job there was that I was trained to use a Monroe programmable calculator, which was one of the forerunners of the portable computer," Ato says.

The math whiz, however, was not content with just being an actuarial trainee. He would take proficiency exams to make himself eligible for promotions because he wanted to spread his wings.

His chance came when Rodrigo del Rosario, who was executive vice president at the time, lost one of his key persons so he was left looking for someone with an actuarial background but was willing to go into sales and marketing.

Ato's boss recommended him to Del Rosario since he was good in actuary, a specialized form of mathematics that is vital in the insurance industry.

"They considered me as an offbeat person there because I was not typical for an actuary. As the joke goes, actuaries are accountants without personalization. When everybody comes in wearing straight pants, I was wearing flair pants. I even had two-tone boots. Maybe that's why I was referred to him," Ato says.

Ato can still remember the first time he met Del Rosario, who would become his mentor at Phlamlife and much later his father-in-law.

They worked together since he was 22 years old and it was the start of a working relationship that would last for close to 20 years. Del Rosario, he says, was as willing to teach him as he was willing to learn, making Ato go up the ranks quickly.

At 23 years old, he was named assistant vice president for sales, and two years later, promoted to SAVP. He was made responsible for sales and marketing, which meant dealing with the huge agency work force of Phlamlife.

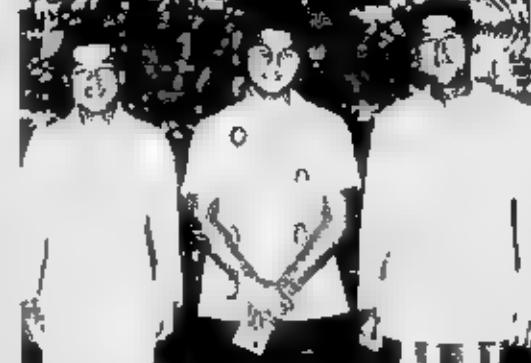
In 1981, at the ripe age of 28, he was named vice president for sales and then six years later, he was again promoted to SVP also for sales after Del Rosario took over the presidency of Phlamlife when his predecessor, Cesar Zalamea, was appointed head of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

Ato says he owes his fast move up the ranks to having a role model like Del Rosario and his eagerness to learn from people who have been in the business for a long time.

Another major factor was his rapport with people, be it the agents, colleagues or superiors. He says he must have developed his people skills when he was



**RENATO A. Vergel de Dios** sharing a light moment with the first employee he ever hired, Jess Hofileña, now Executive Vice President for Philamlife



**MANULIFE CEO** Renato Vergel de Dios flanked by two former presidents of Philamlife—Cesar Zalamea and Rodrigo del Rosario. Zalamea then went on to become Centra Bank Governor



**ATO** in 1977 during a conference with agents

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# PSE proxy defies age by getting into sports

BY DORIS C. DUMLAO

**R**AMON "RTG" T. Garcia, president of the Philippine Stock Exchange, is a living example of how physical fitness should be a lifetime passion.

While many people his age are confined to a wheelchair or can hardly walk, Garcia is still up and running and is as dynamic as his work at the

RTG, who celebrated his 72nd birthday last July 15, owes his health and vigor to his being a health buff through all these years.

The PSE president has the zest to outlast younger people in the dance floor, the vigor to continue engaging in sports and the discipline to follow his doctor's advice to the letter.

"My idea of retirement is when you're six feet under the ground," Garcia jests.

But Garcia—who agreed to assume the top PSE management post only after his doctor gave him a clean bill of health—believes that being health conscious is just one of the many factors behind aging gracefully.

"To me, over and above this physical health is spiritual health and I guess that is what really helps me meet the challenges I face," Garcia says.

A devout Catholic, RTG, who used to do marriage counseling at his parish in Bel Air, Makati, never fails to go to Mass and meditate everyday. He also conducts regular Bible study sessions in his parish.

It is no wonder that one of his sons, Ramon "Monchung" Jr., is now a parish priest in Beter Living, Parañaque.

"I've been attending Mass daily since I got my first communion at 7 years old. My day is not complete without participating in the Eucharist. In addition, I devote no less than an hour a day for my spiritual well-being. I make it a point to spend time for spiritual healing," he notes.

Garcia thanks the Good Lord for keeping him in good shape and with a sound mind to assume big responsibilities. He needed all the stamina he can muster since he became PSE president at the height of the investigations on the BW Resources Corp. price manipulation scandal.

The scandal almost led to the collapse of the stock exchange.

Since then, his job has not become easier, especially with the passage of the Securities Regu-



ONE of the changes Garcia instituted at the Philippine Stock Exchange was a whole-year fitness program.

lation Code. An offshoot of the BW crackdown, he says some of the provisions in the Code caused trading volumes to dwindle, which, in turn led to the closure of a number of brokerage firms.

Garcia, however, remains optimistic especially with the impending transformation of the PSE into a stock corporation. He believes the demutualization process will give fresh opportunities to the brokers in the future.

#### Physical routine

Garcia says it was not difficult for him to stay in shape since he has always been athletic since his younger days.

"Anything that's round and is involved with sports, I play. Let's start with golf, basketball, volleyball, bowling, squash and even pelota at the time that it was the fad. With the exception of tennis, practically all the racket games, I've already played," Garcia says.

Garcia, a true blue-blooded Atenean from grade school to college (he later got his law de-

gree from the Far Eastern University), first got into sports through basketball. "Here in PSE, I still play with the PSE (basketball) team, but my position now is benchwarmer," he kids.

When he has the time and the inclination, he plays volleyball and bowling with the PSE team and has even made it a point to share his passion with the rest of the PSE family.

"Since I believe very much in physical fitness, one of the initiatives I introduced in PSE is that everybody should pursue a physical program. That's the reason why basketball and bowling are now regular sports in PSE, not only during the yearly tournament but on a year-round basis," he says. "And also for the aficionados, we also started ballroom dancing and aerobics."

"My schedule is quite rigid to make sure that I have time for sports. I play golf twice a week, Sundays and Tuesdays and on Saturday I go for aerobics in our parish. On Wednesday evenings, ballroom dancing," Garcia says.

"At my age, I also do brisk walking in case I'm not able to play golf. I substitute it. I also use treadmill," he adds.

Garcia also considers swimming as the best form of exercise. He enjoyed this sport for some time but had to stop because it affected his eyesight.

#### Preventive measures

Engaging in sports is not enough to keep fit. It is also important for Garcia to regularly go to the doctor to monitor his health.

"Since many, many years ago, on my birth month (July), I go for a thorough annual physical check-up and it's really a check-up from head to toe and when there are indications of rise in blood sugar and cholesterol, then I take steps to be able to control it," he says.

"I do what is prescribed by the doctor, like if he says 'watch your diet' and I'm so particular about that, so I shy away from fats and too much sugar."

And what could be his diet secret?

"I take only fruits and oatmeal in the morning and milk. That's my breakfast wherever I am. For lunch, I cut down on fats. I just concentrate on



fish and very little rice or almost no rice. That goes also for dinner," he bares.

His alcohol intake is limited to a glass of wine, which has been medically proven to be good for the heart. He never touches a cigar, except on very rare social occasions when he cannot refuse, such as when the host offers a stick.

Garcia also makes sure he gets enough sleep.

"It's a regular habit. Between 9 and 10 p.m., I'm sound asleep, but I'm an early riser. I wake up at 4:30 to 5:30 a.m. and do my reading and writing then. It's a carryover from my school days when I did my assignments in the early morning instead of staying up late at night," he says.

"I'm very particular about time. I'm a very punctual person. I list down all my activities so that I know what my schedule is and that helps me avoid tension and stress."

For those who wish to live a long, healthy, meaningful and productive existence, Garcia could have the best lifestyle to emulate, enabling him to live long enough to stop and smell the roses.

AT 72, Ramon T. Garcia continues to play golf twice a week.



THE PSE head says a healthy lifestyle should be complemented by spiritual well being.

## Humor ...

(From page B1)

There was a time, she says, when three of them were living under the same roof and handling three competing products.

She was handling the copy for Pepsi Cola when she was working with Ace Compton (now Ace Saatchi & Saatchi), brother Dennis (one of the founders of the band Hotdog) was responsible for Royal True Orange and another sister, was handling the copy of 7-Up.

She was happy handling copy in an advertising agency but she was later lured to give the hospitality industry a try. The timing was right because there was a proliferation of hotels in the 1970s because of the IMF-WB convention in the country.

Garcia says it was the glamorous job at that time and she landed in the Regent of Manila. She has not left the industry since.

After her stint in the US, she was asked to work in Indonesia where she handled the successful opening of the Shangri-La Hotel in Surabaya, a port city. She stayed there for two years until the Westin chain invited her to head the marketing of its local branch. She was hired as an expatriate.

At the Westin, she ran smack into the rehabilitation of the hotel where all of the restaurants were closed and the food was served in function rooms.

Garcia, however, says they managed to come up with creative ideas that still attracted clients. The hotel was relaunched in January 1998 with 3,000 guests.

In July of that same year, she was poached by Dusit where she was able to successfully tap the business market and helped create better awareness about the hotel. Dusit now enjoys a better and broader client base.

One thing Garcia noticed in her career is that she seems to get offers she cannot resist every three years. She just celebrated her third year at the Dusit and one wonders what lies ahead. *Marge Quiapo-Espino*

## Math whiz ...

(From page B2)

still young. As a child, his playmates were his cousins and the children of the employees who worked for his grandfather's company.

"I climbed trees with them, played with a tridor and patintero so I learned about how they thought, their feelings and aspirations. I still feel that it helped me become a well-rounded person," Ato says.

Because of this, he did not consider it awkward to deal with the agents. He enjoyed all his trips around the country to meet the staff, the long hours and the late nights because he likes dealing with people, and communicating with them.

He picked up more and more skills as he moved on, eventually being promoted to executive vice president of Philam in 1993. It was when he felt that he learned everything he could learn at Philam that he moved on, eventually taking on the offer to become chief executive officer of Manulife Financial.

"I wanted to do something broader and I knew it was time to go when I started becoming irritable. I would go home many nights with a short temper. It came to a point when my second son who was seven years old at that time, told me that my sons are eventually going to leave me if I did not stop shouting at them," Ato says.

It was such a reality check that he immediately went about looking at other options, and he landed in Manulife Financial. It was the third or fourth time he was offered a CEO job but it was when Manulife came along that he felt that it was the right one to consider. He became CEO when he was 42 years old and he is looking at further growing Manulife's business in the insurance and preneed sectors, and is also acting like a mentor to his staff in the same way that he looked up to his boss in Philam.

"I really think that it made a difference in my career because at least you know how to plot your career path. I also stress the need for today's generation to develop their communication skills. Many of them are good but they cannot communicate their thoughts effectively. That is a problem," he says.

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A prestigious international development organization implementing peace and development in Southern Philippines is in search of qualified individuals for the following posts:

- Report directly to the Programme Coordinator
- Coordinate and manage M&E/MIS of the 7 components, sub-components, projects and sub-projects
- Design and install an MIS, detailing the required indicators in line with the programs, strategies/operations plans and manifest, data flow, responsibilities of staff/agencies for collection of data, methods of analysis and reporting
- Coordinate with the Component Managers and appropriate units/divisions of the LGUs, NGOs, ARMM Departments, UN Technical Advisors/specialists/Project Teams and other donor agencies at the area level of effectively carry out an integrated MIS
- Ensure that all agencies and personnel involved at the area level effectively carry out an integrated MIS
- Supervise the MIS personnel, especially in the submission of monthly, quarterly and other progress reports, based on information submitted to the Programme Coordinator and collected by the MIS staff
- Report to the Programme Coordinator on the progress of each component, highlighting outstanding issues
- Design and prepare the Mid-Term and end-of-program evaluation analysis and other studies deemed necessary by the PCCP/CST
- Develop a SZOPAD-wide/program-wide database
- Together with the MIS Assistant, establish the baseline of target communities and the inflow of various assistance from the NGOs, PoPs and other donor agencies

### Qualification Requirements:

- At least 5 years management experience in M&E systems
- Masteral units in Sociology/Economics/Statistics/Management/Rural Development/Computer Science/Computer Engineering
- Proven competence in M&E computer software
- Familiar with the culture, history and current situation in southern Philippines
- Able to converse in most dialects in Southern Philippines

### Terms of Reference:

- Reports directly to the Programme Coordinator
- Manages SZOPAD-wide/program-wide database and update the same on a regular basis
- Together with the M&E Officer, establish the baseline of target communities and the inflow of various assistance from the NGOs, PoPs and other donor agencies
- Collect and prepare monthly, quarterly and other progress reports based on information submitted to the Programme Coordinator by the ACTs, LGUs, PDTGs, NGOs and

- Ensure that the report format is appropriate as a basis for managerial decisions by the ACTs, CMGs, PC and PSCT
- Perform other tasks that may be assigned

### Qualification Requirements:

- At least 5 years experience in developing data base/systems/maintenance
- Bachelor's or graduate studies on Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Economics, Statistics
- Computer literate
- Able to analyze indicators and statistics
- Able to converse in most dialects in Southern Philippines

### Report directly to the Senior Finance Officer

- Assist in the implementation of the prescribed financial management system
- Maintain an orderly file/record of all financial transactions
- Record all transactions in the corresponding accounting books
- Prepare payroll

### Qualification Requirements:

- At least 5 years of related experience
- Bachelor's degree major in Accounting
- Very literate in the use of computer spreadsheets and other financial and accounting

### Terms of Reference:

- Under the direct supervision of the FAO Representative in the Philippines and of the Team Leader of the Project
- Considering the difficulty of procuring seeds and seedlings for sustainable operation, introduce the production of seeds and seedlings to trained farmer cooperators that can be replicated and immediately sourced for commercial production

- Formulate and facilitate the conduct of training activities on crop production, farming systems, seed production, nursery management, etc., to focus on simple technologies and simple post-harvest techniques storage and processing. In accordance with the needs of the beneficiaries and the resources available in the Project;
- Assess the required inputs for the different modules identified and approved, prepare the corresponding budget plan, and facilitate their procurement and delivery in consultation with the Project Team;

- In close coordination with the Team Leader, establish a functional working relationship with the DA, DILG and LGUs in the area with the objective of developing and strengthening the extension needs in the target areas and integrating the extension function in the regular extension programs of these agencies.
- Monitor and prepare periodic progress reports on the implementation of the crop production modules in coordination/consultation with the Team Leader as regards format and application of progress and development indicators, and
- Perform other tasks that may be assigned by the Team Leader within the scope of the Project objectives.

- Qualification Requirements:
- At least 7 years of practical experience in the implementation of livelihood projects in agriculture
- Advance Degree in Agronomy or related fields
- Good knowledge of crop production and farming systems, particularly those that are indigenous
- Familiarity with Mindanao, particularly with small island agriculture will be given priority

Please submit your application letter and comprehensive resumé on or before 06 August 2001 to Development Support Services Center, United Nations Development Programme, 7th Floor, NEDA sa Makati Building, 106 Amorsolo St., Legazpi Village, Makati City (via courier) or P.O. Box 7285 Domestic Airport Post Office Lock Box, 1300 Domedillo Road, Pasay City (via airmail). Tel. Nos. (632) 892-4528/892-0611 to 26. Fax Nos. (632) 816-5166.

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BIRTH DATE: <input type="checkbox"/> 1900s <input type="checkbox"/> 1910s <input type="checkbox"/> 1920s <input type="checkbox"/> 1930s <input type="checkbox"/> 1940s <input type="checkbox"/> 1950s <input type="checkbox"/> 1960s <input type="checkbox"/> 1970s <input type="checkbox"/> 1980s <input type="checkbox"/> 1990s			BIRTH PLACE: <input type="checkbox"/> 1900s <input type="checkbox"/> 1910s <input type="checkbox"/> 1920s <input type="checkbox"/> 1930s <input type="checkbox"/> 1940s <input type="checkbox"/> 1950s <input type="checkbox"/> 1960s <input type="checkbox"/> 1970s <input type="checkbox"/> 1980s <input type="checkbox"/> 1990s
HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (Please check)			NAME AND ADDRESS OF SCHOOL
<input type="checkbox"/> High School Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> High School Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> College Student (Course/Year) <input type="checkbox"/> College Graduate (Course)			
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Republic of the Philippines  
City Government of Pasig  
Pasig City

## SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

Ordinance No. 19  
Series of 2001

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AND MANDATING AMNESTY ON THE PAYMENT OF PENALTIES, INTEREST AND SURCHARGE ON DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTIES, BUSINESS TAXES, MAYOR'S PERMIT, RENTALS ON MARKET STALLS, BUILDING PERMITS, OCCUPANCY AND ELECTRICAL PERMITS.

Authored By: Vice-Mayor Lorna A. Bernardo, Councilors Fortunato G. Co, Jr., Robert C. Eusebio, Roberto A. Barretto, Reynaldo R. San Buenaventura III, Jose S. Tatco, Jr., Rosario D. Martires, Alejandro E. Santiago, Charmie Q. Benavides, Reynaldo F. Raymundo, Aquilino S. Dela Cruz, Gregorio P. Rupisan, Jr., Macario C. Cruz, Liga President Rolando C. Sambeli and SK President Xavier M. Garcia

WHEREAS, Section 17 (a) of R.A. 7180, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that the local government units shall endeavor to be self-reliant and shall exercise such other powers and discharge other functions and responsibilities as are necessary, appropriate or incidental to efficient and effective provisions of the basic services and facilities;

WHEREAS, Section 18 of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that local government units, among others, shall have the power to create their own sources of revenue and thereby ensure their development into self-reliant communities and active participants in the attainment of national goals;

WHEREAS, Section 458 (2) of the same code provides that the Sangguniang Panlungsod shall have the power to generate and maximize the use of resources and revenue for development plans, programs and priorities of the City;

WHEREAS, under Section 458 (2) (i), the Sangguniang Panlungsod shall have the power and authority to grant incentives and reliefs in the payments of taxes, fees and charges;

WHEREAS, the present economic crisis being experienced nationwide resulted in the delay in the payment of taxes, fees and charges and in the problems of paying interests, surcharge and penalties due thereon;

WHEREAS, to achieve the development of a more self-reliant city, the collection of real property taxes, business taxes, mayor's permit, rentals on market stalls, building permits, occupancy and electrical permits must at all time be promoted and enhanced.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD of Pasig City in session assembled that:

Section 1. CONDONATION OF INTEREST, PENALTIES AND SURCHARGES - There is hereby granted and mandated the grant of amnesty in the payment of interests, penalties and surcharges on taxes, fees and charges due on real properties, business taxes, mayor's permit, rentals on market stalls, building permits, occupancy and electrical permits. One Hundred Percent (100%) of the interests, penalties and surcharges heretofore mentioned shall be condoned for all delinquencies accruing for the year 2000 and prior years. However, interest, penalties and surcharge due on taxes fees and charges for the current year 2001 shall continue to be collected in the manner provided for by law and existing rules and regulations.

Section 2. COVERAGE - The amnesty on interest, penalties and surcharge is hereby allowed, granted and mandated for the following:

- Those real properties which are delinquent in the payment of real property taxes for the year 2000 and prior years;
- Those which are undeclared and subject to back taxes;
- Those buildings and improvements which were constructed and renovated in the year 2000 and prior years without the payment of the building, electrical and occupancy permits, and to those machineries and equipment installed without paying the installation and electrical permits;
- Those business establishments which are delinquent in the payment of business taxes and mayor's permit for CY 2000 and prior years;
- Those business establishments which had undeclared their gross income for 2000 and prior years;
- Those legal occupants and awardees of stalls in the market who failed to pay the rental fees for the year 2000 and prior years.

Section 3. MODE OF PAYMENT - Within the amnesty period, the taxes, fees and charges due less interest, penalties and surcharges herein covered by the amnesty may be paid in four (4) equal monthly installments. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the current year taxes, fees and charges including interest, penalties and surcharge are first paid and settled either in full or in installment basis. In case there is failure on the part of the taxpayer to pay any installment when due, the whole tax together with the penalty, interest and surcharge shall become due and demandable and shall be collected in accordance with law, rules and regulations.

Section 4. PROTEST - Any protest filed with the concerned city government office or department must be given due course and acted upon during the period of amnesty.

Section 5. EFFECTIVITY - The amnesty herein granted and mandated shall be effective for the period from August 1, 2001 to November 30, 2001.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall take effect on the date mentioned in Section 5, hereof. APPROVED, this 18th day of July 2001, at Pasig City

HON. FORTUNATO G. CO, JR.  
Councillor

HON. ROBERTO C. EUSEBIO  
Councillor

HON. JOSE S. TATCO, JR.  
Councillor

HON. REYNALDO R. SAN  
Buenaventura III  
Councillor

HON. ALEJANDRO E. SANTIAGO  
Councillor

HON. AQUILINO S. DELA CRUZ  
Councillor

HON. MACARIO C. CRUZ  
Councillor

HON. LORNA A. BERNARDO  
City Vice Mayor  
Presiding Officer

HON. SOLEDAD C. EUSEBIO  
City Mayor

HON. HERMENE GILDO C. CRUZ  
City Council Secretary

Attested:

APPROVED:

Attested:





# People, Events & Products

Aurelio B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

aespinoza@inquirer.com.ph

## IBM breaks barriers between Linux and Unix with AIX 5L

IBM announced AIX 5L, the next generation in Unix operating systems. Specifically aimed at Linux applications, AIX 5L provides the industry's premier environment for building and managing both Unix and Linux applications, providing a substantial advantage over closed, proprietary systems.

AIX 5L boasts powerful new features, designed to enable customers to safely and rapidly grow their infrastructure with enhanced automated management tools and concurrent operation of 32- and 64-bit applications.

"AIX 5L builds on the solid foundation set by AIX to address customers' demands for more open computing solutions including multi-platform support and the ability to run Linux applications in a safe, high performance environment," said Sandra Arnaiz-Yuhico, pSeries marketing manager, IBM Philippines.

"With AIX 5L, IBM establishes AIX as the first choice for companies evaluating Linux applications for use in enterprise environments."

With this release, AIX gains

APIs (application programming interface) and header files that allow popular Linux applications to run on AIX with simple recompilation. Because the applications are running on AIX, customers are able to combine the flexibility of Linux with the advanced scalability, security and systems management inherent in AIX. Also available with AIX 5L is the AIX Toolbox for Linux applications. The toolbox is a collection of over 200 open source tools and applications, which together provide the development environment of choice for many Linux developers.

"AIX 5L allows customers to run the software they want on the server they want without sacrificing an ounce of scalability, manageability or performance," Yuhico added. "Our competitors have been doing a lot of talking about future Linux compatibility and support for the latest platform solutions, but AIX is actually delivering."

With this release, AIX strengthens its leadership position in

systems management with new tools to automate and simplify monitoring and control of complex systems. New tools built into AIX's sophisticated Workload Manager (WLM) include the addition of an API allowing external applications to modify system behavior. This important feature provides greater flexibility to customers in choosing their management environment. New accounting tools in WLM allow administrators to cost-effectively grow their infrastructure by tracking resource usage. Workload manager is easily accessible via AIX's web-based system manager, which sports an intuitive, easy-to-use interface.

Great strides have been made in the area of automated systems management with the addition of Reliable Scalable Cluster Technology (RSCT). Harnessing the robust self-management capabilities available in IBM's powerful RS/6000 SP systems, RSCT allows monitoring and control of system resources and events either automatically by the system or by an administrator



### ABS-CBN SUPPORTS FRENCH EMBASSY PROJECT

ABS-CBN Broadcasting was one of the partners of the French Embassy's 'French Spring in Manila' project. The month-long cultural festival featured the best of French music, dance, cinema and visual arts in a series of activities in Manila. ABS-CBN was requested to assist in the promotion of the festival through the coverage of Channel 2 and its UHF channel, Studio 23 of the different 'French Spring in Manila' events. Present during the signing of the memorandum of agreement between ABS-CBN and the French Embassy were (seated, from left) PR officer for cultural affairs Martin Macalintal, Studio 23 chief finance officer Jun Penaranda, ABS-CBN president and COO Federico M. Garcia, and the French Embassy's councilor for cooperation and cultural affairs Franck Hebert. In the background were (from left) Creative Synergy assistant Barnard Miranda, cultural affairs officer Lila Valera, Studio 23 marketing director Rica Dalmacion, Creative Synergy director Zita Aragon and AVP for government affairs Malou Manalastas.



### PHILIPPINES ONLINE FORMS PARTNERSHIP

Philippines Online, a local Internet service provider and Microwarehouse, a leading distributor for USR modems and palm pilots, formed a partnership for an Internet Bundling promo. From May 1 until July 31, Microwarehouse clients can get free Internet access from Philippines Online for every purchase of USR Robotic Modems and Palm Pilots. Signing the agreement are (from left) Kathy Rosal, Jayson Yu, Philippines Online VP for sales and marketing and Rodge M. Neva, product manager for USR Robotic Modem. For more information, call 411-4566 or visit [www.philonline.com](http://www.philonline.com)

### New engine treatment offers 7-in-1 advantage

THERE'S a big reason for motorists to rejoice these days. The Uniq Engine Treatment formula is now available in the Philippine market. This engine treatment formula from the United States can outperform all leading oil additives and engine treatment brands in the market worldwide.

The Uniq Engine Treatment formula works by adhering to the metal surface, penetrates the internal parts of the engine and becomes an integral part of the engine alloy, thus eliminating metal-to-metal friction—a superior antidote to engine wear caused by extreme heat pressure resulting from friction. The results are fuel economy of up to 30 percent, engine wear reduction of up to 40 percent, increase in engine power and performance up to 30 percent, smoother engine operation, easy starting even in cold weather, harmful emission control from 5 to 20 percent, engine friction reduction up to 800 percent, operating temperature reduction up to 40 percent, oil viscosity improvement up to 60 percent, and engine maintenance savings from 200 to 400 percent.

Early birds who witnessed the incredible

friction test performance of Uniq Engine Treatment in the TransShow 2001 at the SM Megatrade Hall in Mandaluyong City were simply amazed at how this newly introduced engine treatment could outperform such leading brands in the market. Based on actual friction tests conducted on ½ HP x 300 rpm friction tester, Uniq Engine Treatment registered 350 ft lbs, while the closest brands could only attain as much as 77 ft. lbs.

Uniq Engine Treatment is engineered, tested and proven in the United States. It is highly recommended for all types of mechanical and internal combustion engines. It is environment-friendly and contains no pte (or teflon), molybdenum, graphite, silicon, sulfur and other harmful chemicals and is available in 240 ml bottles—good for a 4- to 6-liter engine.

Uniq Engine Treatment is exclusively distributed by Bizcom International Corporation (e-mail [bizcom@skyinet.net](mailto:bizcom@skyinet.net)) and is now available in leading auto supplies, supermarkets and gas stations. The Uniq treatment is brought to the Philippines by Uniqpoint Marketing.



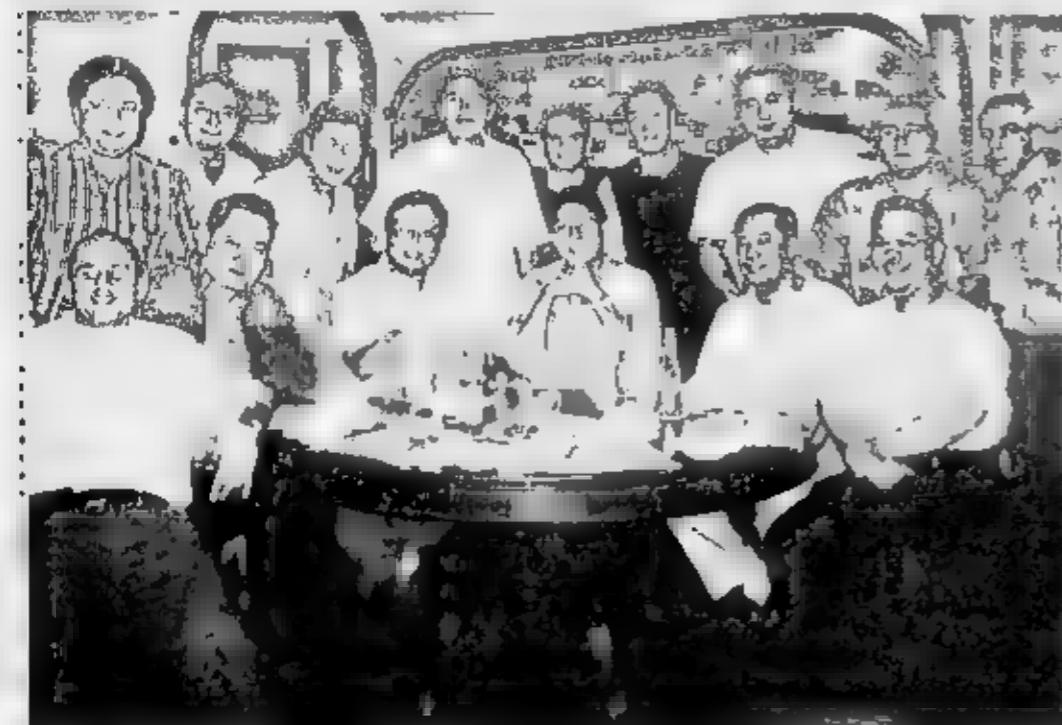
### DISASTER MANUAL FROM J & J

Philippine Pediatric Society president Dr. Carmelo A. Afifler explains the contents of 'Helping the Children—A Practical Handbook for Complex Humanitarian Emergencies', which Johnson and Johnson Philippines, Johnson and Johnson Medical Philippines, and Janssen Pharmaceutica donated to the Philippine Pediatric Society and 18 other governments and non-governmental organizations involved in caring for children in disasters and emergencies. Afifler thanked Johnson and Johnson for its continuing involvement with PPS in improving child care in the Philippines.



### NESTLE WORKSHOP FOR SPOUSES

In cooperation with Technical Education Skills and Development Authority (Tesda), the Nestle Cabuyao Factory recently concluded a set of seminars teaching entrepreneurial skills to the spouses of employees. The workshop included: preventive car maintenance, meat processing, basic baking, culinary workshop, dressmaking and hair science and body massage.



### VICTORY PARTY FOR SENATOR

Newly elected Senator Francis 'Kiko' Pangilinan was recently treated by his La Salle Greenhills high school batch to a victory party at newly opened Brubbeck Bistro in BF Homes. Attended by almost a hundred batchmates from the class of '81, the victory party doubled as an impromptu class reunion. Greg Benzon, the young general manager of Johnson and Johnson Indonesia and proprietor of Brubbeck Bistro, served as host while Burwood Beer sponsored by donating 10 cases of beer. Among the attendees were fashion model and businessman, Monon Gonzales, dermatologist pediatrician, Dr. Michael Wassmer, media executive, *Finans* Inquirer, top banker Andy Navarette and up-and-coming restaurateur, Fibert Alquiro.



THE ATENEO Center for Continuing Education will hold seminars on Project Management—World Class Contracting (Aug. 1, 2, and 3), Managing Smaller Projects (Aug. 6 and 7), Project Risk Management (Aug. 17 and 18) and Project Management Essentials (Aug. 24 and 25) at its Salcedo Campus. For more details and registration, call Lorraine at 830-2050 or 830-2040 or e-mail [coe-rib@aps.ateneo.edu](mailto:coe-rib@aps.ateneo.edu).

### Gozon Magna Cum Laude

MA. Teresa M. Gozon, youngest daughter of lawyer Felipe L. Gozon and Teresa Manotok-Gozon, graduated Magna Cum Laude last April from the University of the Philippines, Diliman, with a degree in BS Psychology. Marites was a consistent scholar during her college days and served as counselor for the University Student Council. She has also been inducted as member of both Pi Gamma Mu and Phi Kappa Phi International Honor Societies. Marites graduated as the valedictorian of her class in both grade school and high school at the Colegio San Agustin, Makati. She was also one of Makati's Ten Outstanding Students for 1997. Marites, who is currently one of *Life 14*'s Manila's Five Loveliest, is now in med school.

### Fun weekend at Eastwood City walk

EASTWOOD Property Holdings Inc. is putting together an activity-laden, fun-filled weekend dubbed as "Family Fun Fair @ Eastwood City Walk" in Eastwood City, Libis. The event will be held at the Eastwood City Walk Water Plaza on July 28 and 29, Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The whole family gets to participate in an array of games, kiddie shows, magi, tricks and interesting activities set amid the neo-urban landscape of Eastwood City Walk. Prizes are courtesy of Citibank, Skyline and Little Tikes.



### GLOBE MALL TOUR

GlobeLines, the telephone service of Globe Telecom, recently held a successful mall tour for its 1-900-TXT and Net Express services at the EDSA Mall of Glorietta. The GlobeLines mall tour—where mall-goers were able to try for free landline texting using 1-900-TXT and Internet surfing through Net Express—helped the public become more aware of the benefits and advantages of the innovative services. The GlobeLines booth, shown above, also accepted applications for GlobeNet services and features. Visitors to the GlobeNet booth were also treated to free fortune telling sessions, highlighting the horoscope information service feature of the 1-900-TXT service. The recent mall tour at the Glorietta is part of a series of mall tours that GlobeLines is currently holding in major malls during weekends.

### Philippine Junior Jaycees goes Mindanao

With this year's theme "The Junior Jaycee D.R.E.A.M. (Developing Responsive Empowered and Active Members), the Philippine Junior Jaycees Inc., a youth leadership training organization and a special affiliate of the Philippine Jaycees Inc. with chapters from all over the country, converged on May 26-27 at the Brainlinks Center and All Asia Life conference room in Cagayan de Oro City for this year's first national board meeting hosted by the Metro Cagayan Junior Jaycees. The National Board will convene again for the second national board meeting hosted by the Carmona "Sorteo" Junior Jaycees in August 2001. For more information about the organization, call the National PRO JJC Owen Jaen at 0917-4819963 or e-mail him at [kuyaw@lingaw.com](mailto:kuyaw@lingaw.com).

### Philips X-treme shots winners

PHILIPS Consumer Electronics recently announced the winners of the Philips X-treme Shots Photo Contest. The contest was part of Philips X-Rage, the explosive extreme games festival recently held at the Fort Summer Camp. Leading the roster of winning lensmen in the published photo category are Rovoli Cortez (1st), Ramon Esquerra (2nd), and Ernesto Mendoza (3rd). For the published photo category, the winners are Dewey Sorgio (1st), JPeter Obligacion (2nd) and Luis Naguit (3rd). The winning photos are on showcase from July 20 to Aug. 1 at the third level Bridgeway, SM Megamall.





## Bask in the grandeur of a 15-hectare park

Take in the splendor of a majestic tree grove with thousands of trees.



Go fishing

in total peace and quiet on a tranquil lagoon.

Enjoy a leisurely hike or jog along a 2.5-kilometer nature trail.



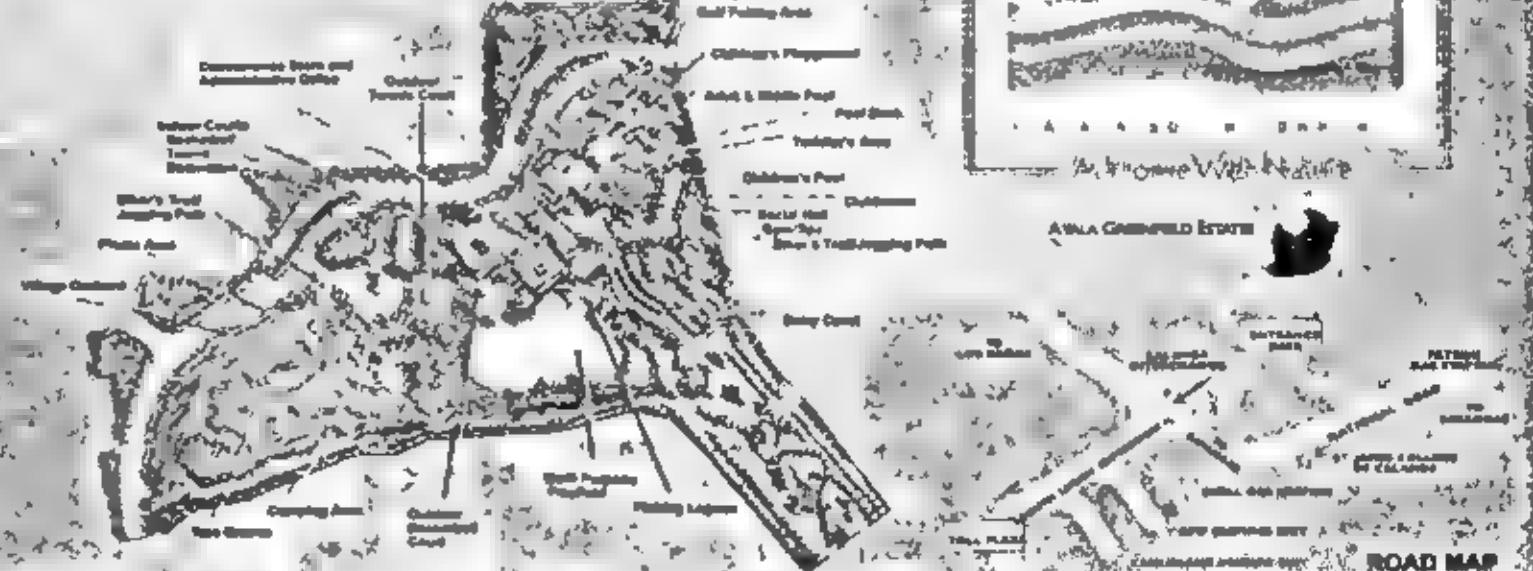
Marvel at the winged wildlife soaring free around the nature park.



## only in Ayala Greenfield Estates.

The subdivision of your dreams is coming to life at Ayala Greenfield Estates. For sheer magnificence and magnitude, no other subdivision park comes close to what lies ahead on the 15 hectares of land that will soon be Nature Park. To put that figure in perspective, consider this: an entire subdivision – of more modest proportions, of course – would fit right into that same area. But at Ayala Greenfield Estates, it's only the park. And what a park it will be, with all the space you'll need to enjoy a host of amenities designed to help you live life to the fullest. Aside from the tree groves, the nature trail, and the lagoon, there will also be a fruit orchard, adult and kiddie pools, a golf putting area, a children's playground, a multi-purpose playfield, and a Locsin-designed clubhouse. All these will help you

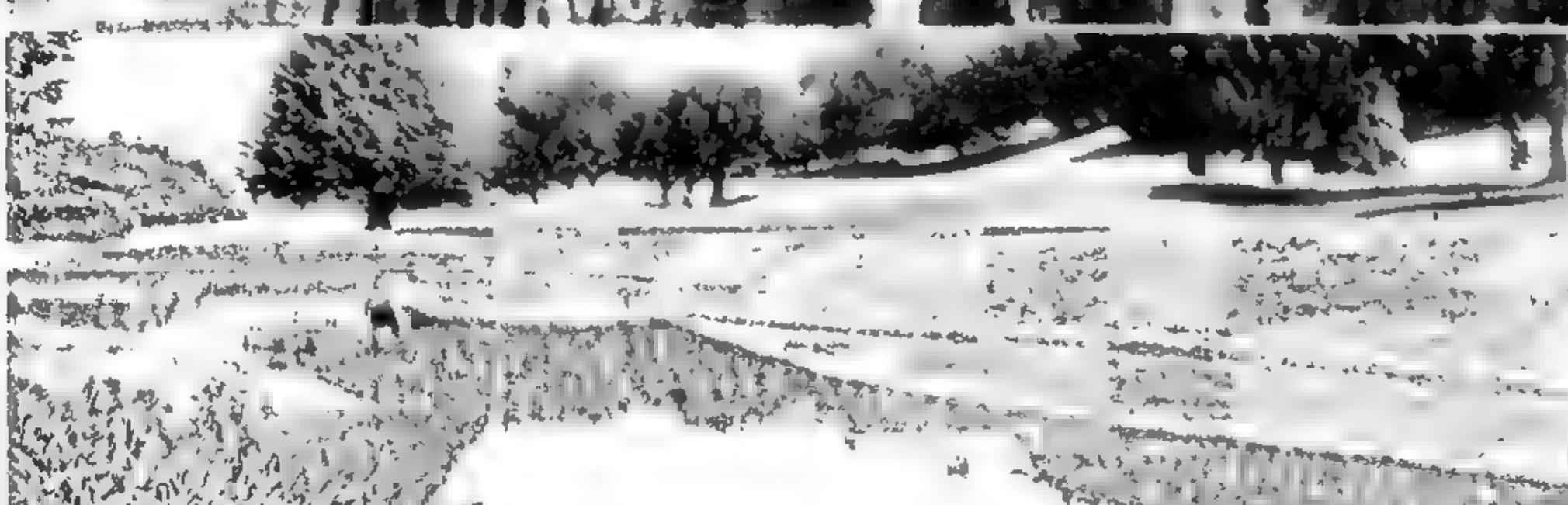
experience the intangible benefits of relaxation in communion with nature, right inside your subdivision. Call us today and visit the site.



This subdivision is owned and developed by Ayala Greenfield Development Corporation. For inquiries, please call AYALA LAND, INC., Sales and Marketing Services Group 2/F Tower One, Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Philippines. Contact information: Site Office Tel No. 850-6953 (Mondays-Sundays), Tel. Nos. 841-5512 to 26, 848-5314 (Mondays to Fridays), Fax No. 848-5314. E-mail address: [ayala@ayala.com.ph](mailto:ayala@ayala.com.ph). Website: <http://www.ayalaland.com.ph>. The particulars, details and visuals shown herein are intended to give a general idea of the project and as such are not to be relied upon as statements of fact. While such particulars and details are based on present plans which have been prepared with utmost care and are given in good faith, buyers are invited to verify their factual correctness and subsequent changes, if any. The contents herein are subject to change without prior notice and do not constitute part of an offer or contract. This advertising is approved and authorized by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board. HLURB License To Sell No. 00163 R4-00-01, 02968 R4-01-06

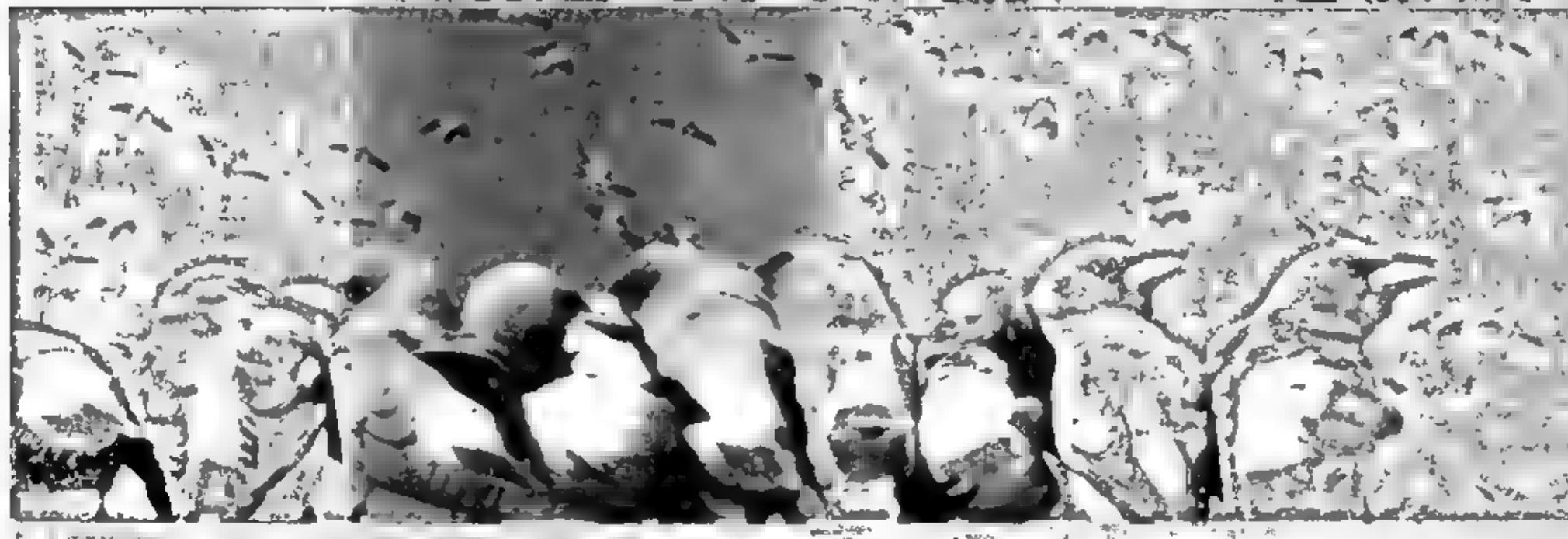
## Bask in the grandeur of a 15-hectare park

Take in the  
splendor of a  
majestic tree grove  
with thousands  
of trees.



Go fishing  
in total peace  
and quiet on a  
tranquil lagoon

Enjoy a leisurely  
hike or jog along  
a 2.5-kilometer  
nature trail

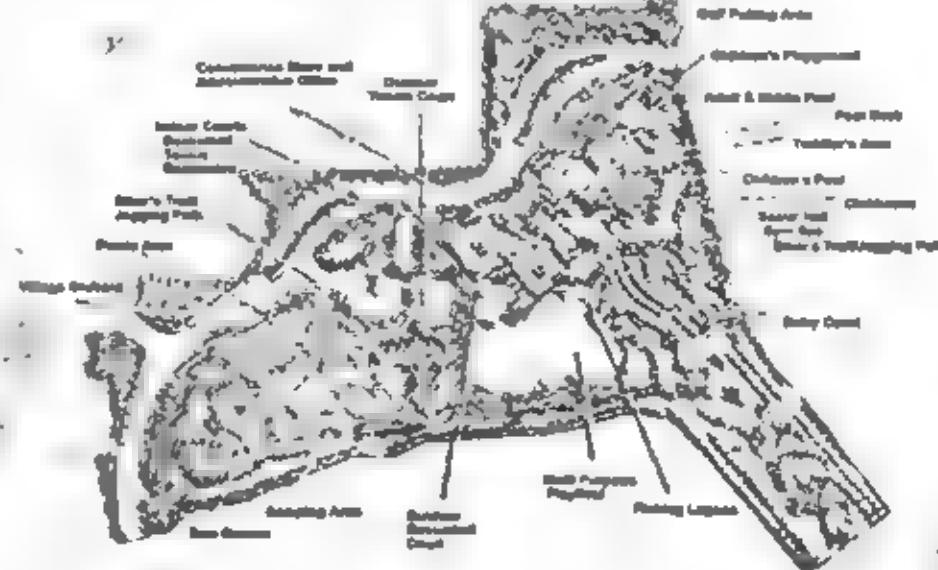


Marvel at the  
winged wildlife  
soaring free  
around the  
nature park

# only in Ayala Greenfield Estates.

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experience the intangible benefits of relaxation in communion with nature, right inside your subdivision. Call us today and visit the site.



ANALOGUE COMPUTER EXPERTS



## ROAD MAP

The subdivision is owned and developed by Ayala Greenfield Development Corporation. For inquiries, please call: AYALA LAND, INC., Sales and Marketing Services Group 2/F Tower One, Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Philippines. Contact Information: Site Office Tel. No. 850-6953 (Mondays-Sundays), Tel. Nos. 845-5512 to 26; 848-5331 (Mondays to Fridays). Fax No. 848-5314. E-mail address: [ayagreenfield@ayaland.com.ph](mailto:ayagreenfield@ayaland.com.ph). Website: <http://www.ayaland.com.ph>. The particulars, details and visuals shown herein are intended to give a general idea of the project and as such are not to be relied upon as statements of fact. While such particulars and details are based on present plans which have been prepared with utmost care and are given in good faith, buyers are advised to verify the same for correctness and subsequent changes, if any. The contents herein are subject to change at any time, prior notice and do not constitute part of an offer or contract. This advertising is approved and authorized by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board, HLURB License To Sell No. 00163-R4-00-01, 01968-R4-01-06.

# Sunday LIFESTYLE

CHILO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor

## Futuristic film inspires restoration of old church

BY RAQUEL P. GOMEZ  
PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

**T**HE SAN Guillermo Church in Bacolor, Pampanga is unusually small. Churchgoers enter it through the windows of the choir loft instead of the main entrance. The ceiling has been removed to make room for the chandeliers, which hang low from the wooden beams. The small windows on the side of the church are the same level as the pews. The buttresses have shrunk while the big bell in the tower can be reached through a short flight of stairs.

Although reduced to half its original height, the church still draws people to Mass.

The current state of the 300-year-old church is among the many reminders of the rampaging lahar from Mt. Pinatubo.

Up until lahar swept the land, the church, built in 1576 by Augustinian friars, was one of the oldest and largest in Pampanga. A marker placed by the National Historical Institute says it was the headquarters of Gov. Gen. Simon de Anda from Oct. 6, 1762 to May 30, 1764, during the British invasion of Manila when the Spanish seat of power was transferred to Bacolor.

Destroyed in 1995, the church has been under repair for the past five years. Bacolor's 35-year-old parish priest hopes to restore the church to its full glory.

Fr. Nes Tayag did not want to build another church. He chose to make do with what remained of the old one. After all, the church was still functional even though some

pews were burned in mud.

Restoration of the historical church began when an Australian film company shot a futuristic cafeteria scene under its dome. The gloomy deserted church, according to Father Nes, was the perfect backdrop for the movie "Robo Warriors."

But before they could shoot the scene, the



Fr. Nes Tayag, the young priest who restored the church

FUTURISTIC/ p.C2



WOOD from the church has been transformed into a set for a movie scene.

Once half-buried in lahar, the church has taught Father Nes the real meaning of 'grace'



# The MARKS & SPENCER Sale

Ladieswear Menswear Childrenswear and Lingerie

## Starts July 28, 2001

Glorietta 4: Sun-Thurs 10AM to 8PM, Fri-Sat 10AM to 9PM

SM Megamall: Mon-Sun 10AM to 9PM • Robinsons Place Manila: Mon-Sun 10AM to 9PM  
Rustans: Harrison Plaza: Mon-Sun 10AM to 8PM  
Ayala Center: Mon-Sun 10AM to 8PM

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER • JULY 29, 2001

Per DILG-R Permit No. 2374 Series of 2001

Long-lasting  
**PINOY**  
TRAITS



### "Going the Extra Mile"

Mahalaga ang samahan sa mga Pinoy. Maka-barkada o mape-pamilya, we go the extra mile. Like after washing clothes, ginagamitan natin ng fragrant fabric softener. Pero hindi basta fragrant lang, kailangan may bangong tumatagal ng laing linggo. At iyan ang Vernel Fabric Softener.

This cultural trait is distinct to Filipinos. Like how Vernel is to every Filipino household.

**Vernel**  
Fabric Softener  
Ang bangong amuyin. Ang sarap yakapin.

## Owning a house transforms families



SALUSTIANO Padilla says he can now look forward to a better future for his family, thanks to their Habitat house.

SALUSTIANO Padilla's hands are rough, his fingernails white from laying mortar for the past 16 years as a construction worker. But his voice softens as he recalls how his family's life has changed since they "toured a new home."

Padilla's family, no used to live in a rented shanty in a squatters area, now has a new concrete house that boasts of underground drainage. "Nakakatulog na kami nang mahimbing," he says with relief. "Malaya na kami sa pangamba ng baha at demolish."

The Padilla family is just among thousands around the globe that have been touched by Habitat for Humanity Int'l. (HFHI), a nonprofit organization helping families have a new future through the construction of decent and affordable housing.

Now on its 25th year, HFHI renews its call to end homelessness through World Leaders Build, an event that will take place simultaneously in five continents Aug. 6-11.

At the end of the weeklong event, HFHI in the Philippines intends to dedicate 300 houses to 300 Filipino families in need. "Owning a decent home is often the first step in regaining one's basic dignity and overcoming the cycle of poverty," says

Fernando Zobel de Ayala, chair of the national steering committee of World Leaders Build. The chair of Ayala Land Inc. also sits on the national board of trustees of HFHP.

Government, business and civil leaders have signified their interest to participate in the event. They include Secretary Michael Defensor of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council; Maricel Prieto, board chair of the Inquirer; Robert Kuan, chair of the board of trustees of St. Luke's Medical Center; and Frank Padilla, national director of Couples for Christ.

### Changes

Today, there is no evidence of the life the Padillas used to lead. Paulina, Salustiano's wife, tends her little sari-sari store, no longer worried when her two children—Emalyn and Joshua—go outside to play.

Another HFHP site is Sitio Mendez, a former squatters area in Quezon City that has become a bustling community of 237 homeowner families. "Malaki ang nagbago dito. Naging masipag kaming lahat," says Necita Calub, a 37-year-old housewife who also owns a sari-sari store and



"WELCOME to our home."

sells cooked meals. She and her husband now live in a three-bedroom house with their children, aged 16-19.

At Sitio Mendez, a whole community has started to rise from poverty and squalor. There is a renewed sense of purpose now that the families are on the road to acquiring their own houses. The men are gainfully employed and the children attend school.

Salustiano says getting a home is better than receiving money outright or the promise of a new job. He is now busy saving money to expand Paulina's store and perhaps start his own business. He is also setting aside part of his earnings for their children's education.

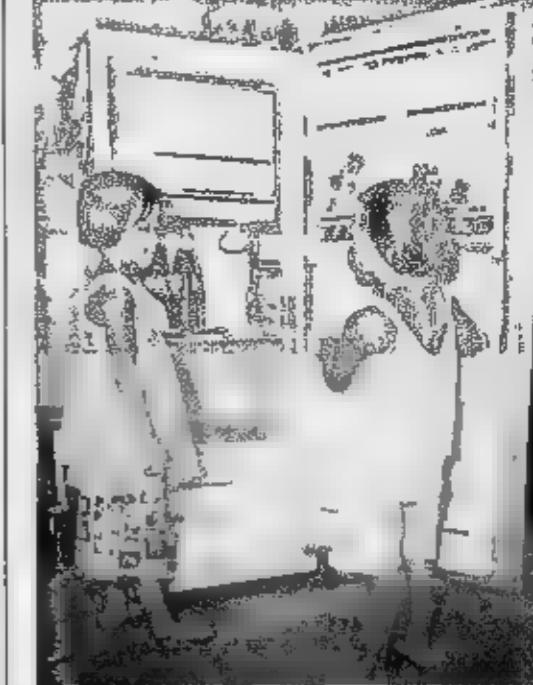
When President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo kicks off World Leaders Build on Aug. 6 in Pinugay, Rizal, Necita says her family will be there to lend a hand. "Naturuan namin ang pakikipagkapwa," she explains humbly.

"Timipad ng Habitat ang mga pangarap namin," she continues, "Gusto naman naming tukarin ang pangarap ng iba."

Habitat for Humanity Phils. is accepting donations and volunteers for World Leaders Build from Aug. 6-11. For more information, contact the World Leaders Build Secretariat at 637-8700 or 638-5362.



SISTERS Emalyn and Be-Ann playing by their concrete house



BE it ever so humble...



AT LAST, a home with stairs and underground drainage.

PHOTO: SENYOR JOHNSON



All the nutrition mommy wants,  
in a yummy-honey taste kids love!



Dumex 1 Plus is specially formulated to give your 1 to 3 year old a healthy foundation to grow up fitter and brighter.

It contains the precise balance of nutrients required for optimal physical and mental development. Dumex 1 Plus now comes in a new honey flavor—another delicious way to give mommy all the nutrition she wants, in a yummy-honey taste her toddler would surely love!



**DUMEX**  
PRECISION NUTRITION  
For fitter, brighter champions.

PHOTO: SENYOR JOHNSON



ICONS on exhibit



## Museum to showcase art inspired by faith

THE SAN Agustin Museum opens an exhibit on Russian icons titled "Mary the Theotokos," July 31, 6 p.m.

This is to commemorate the Feast of the Assumption—the taking up of the Virgin Mary's body to heaven—which is also venerated by the Orthodox Church as the Dormition. In a way, the exhibit makes a special appeal for unity between the Eastern and Western Churches.

An icon is to the Christian Orthodox Churches what a statue, a representation of a saintly divinity.

is to the Western Catholic Church. Both speak of faith made visible by which believers experience the presence of the divine mystery.

The San Agustin Museum keeps one of the best collections of ivory and wooden religious statuary in the country. Annette Ablan lent the icons for the exhibit. Russian Ambassador Anatoli I. Kliminski will be the guest of honor. Makati Skyline will provide the cocktails, and the Philippine Wine Merchants, the vodka.



### OATHTAKING OF NEW CCP OFFICIALS

New officials of the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) took their oath before Executive Secretary Roberto Romulo (left) on July 20 at the Malacañang Guest House. Sworn in as CCP chair was Baltazar N. Endriga (second from left), and CCP president Nestor D. Jardin (third from left). The new officials vowed to faithfully discharge to the best of their abilities their duties and responsibilities in pursuit of the CCP's goals and objectives, protect and uphold its Charter and bylaws, abide by its Code of Ethics and observe the highest professional, moral and ethical standards. Also in photo are the CCP board of trustees: Tessie Luz, Behn Cervantes, Lina Litton, Ruperto Nicdao Jr., Ma. Paz Lagdameo, Patricia Sison and Irma Potenciano.

# Eastwood City presents

# FAMILY FUN FAIR

@ Eastwood City Walk

atch the streets of Eastwood City Walk transform into a spectacle for the whole family. Bring the kids over and treat them to a weekend of street revelry.

Have oodles and oodles of fun with..

- Mesmerizing magic and puppet shows
- Face-painting sessions
- Street performances by mime artists, clowns and puppeteers
- And many more treats and surprises!

**PROGRAM**

**JULY 28 (SAT.) AND JULY 29 (SUN.)**

9 am	Kiddie Video; Coloring	Showroom
10 am	Clown	Water Plaza
11 am	Face Painting; Ceramic Painting	Water Plaza
12 nn	Mime Artist; Clowns Restaurant Hopping/Giving away Balloons	City Walk/ Viewing Tower
1 pm	Caricature	Water Plaza
2 pm	Mascot Appearance/Scavenger Hunt/Other Games	Water Plaza/ Viewing Tower
3 pm	Balloon Twisting/Bubble Show	Water Plaza
4 pm	Puppet Show/Magic Show	Water Plaza

**FREE ADMISSION**

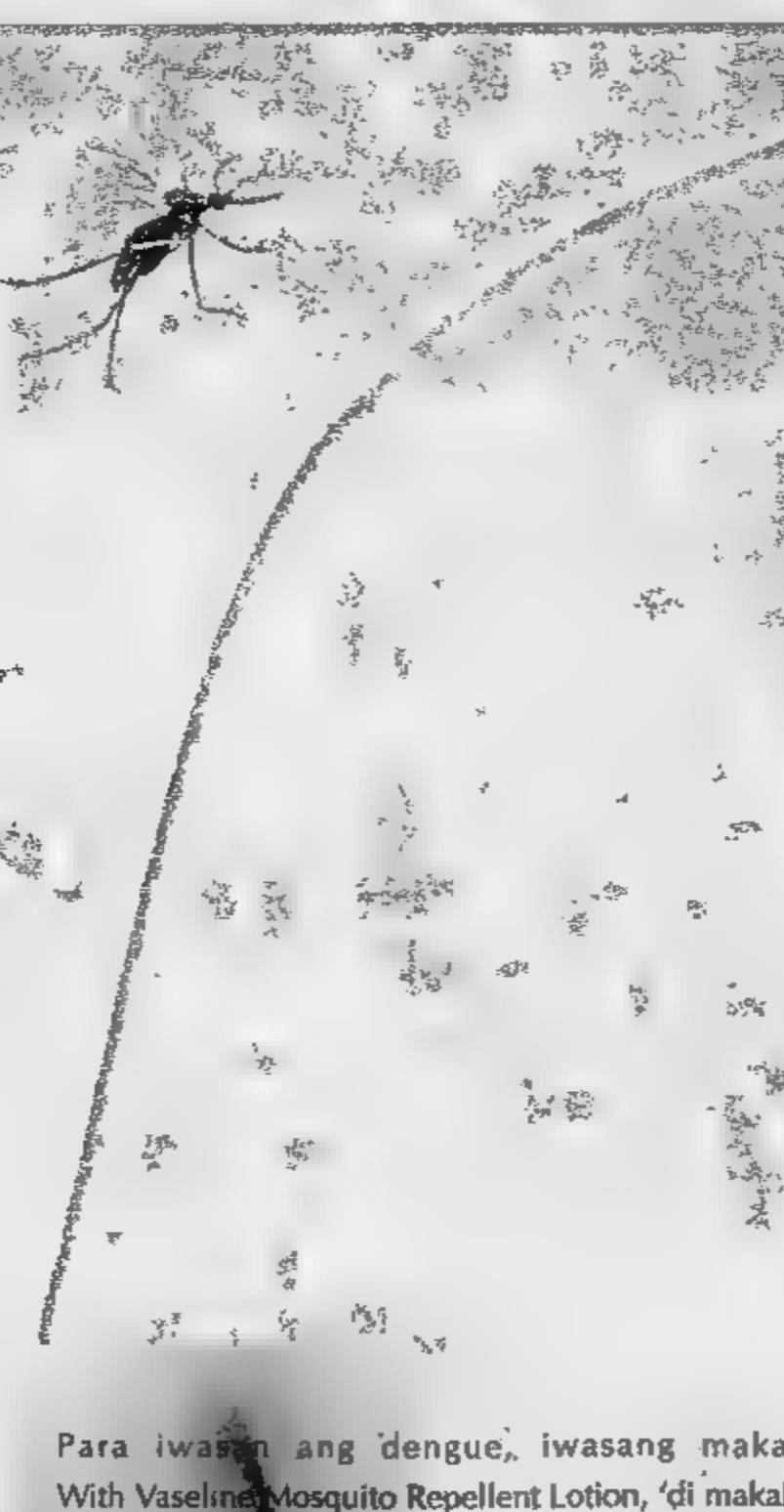
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# When public service is a family affair

SEN. Renato Cayetano always paraphrases the famous words of Ninoy Aquino: "The Filipino is worth dying for." To Cayetano, "The Filipino is worth living for through the good and the hard times."

Unknown to many, Cayetano was already well established in the United States with his American wife, Sandra Schramm, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, when he decided to cast his lot with his home country.

A product of the Filipino dream, Cayetano came from humble beginnings. He is the son of Pedro Cayetano, a mechanic from Marilao, Bulacan, and Julian Luna, a public school teacher from Pateros.

His parents could only afford to send him to elementary and secondary public schools. But the bright boy, destined to go far, managed to obtain political science and law degrees from the University of the Philippines as a working student.

Through various scholarship grants, he obtained from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, USA, his Master of Public Administration, Master of Laws and Doctor of Laws. With these qualifications, he could have joined the many Filipinos there to take advantage of work opportunities and enjoy the good life in the US.

But upon completion of his advanced schooling, the young Cayetano headed back home, bringing with him his family to realize a lifetime vow to help his countrymen.

Public service has brought him several honors and recognition. In 1998, former President Fidel Ramos conferred on him the Legion of Honor; the Philippine Jaycees chose him as TOYM first in the field of law. Earlier, the Order of Purple Fraternity of the UP College of Law adopted him as member; the Philippine Jaycees named him as outstanding Jaycee president; and the University of Michigan and Princeton University in United States gave him various grants. He was conferred a doctorate in humanities, *honoris causa*, by Misamis University in 1997.

To expand his public service, Cayetano ran and won a seat as an assemblyman in the Batasan Pambansa, after which he was appointed deputy minister for trade and industry and administrator of the Export Processing Zone Authority, now the Philippine Export Zone Authority.

In 1995, he was appointed chief presidential counsel by former President Ramos. In recognition of his efforts in crime prevention and the improvement of the criminal justice system, he was appointed co-chair of the Presidential Anti-Crime Commission (PACC).

Cayetano is a founding partner of the Cayetano, Sebastian, Dado, Aia and Cruz Law Of-



**THE SENATOR**  
(standing, center) with (from left) sons Luis, Muniblupa councilor Ren, Taguig-Pateros Rep. Alan, son-in-law Butch Sebastian; (seated) granddaughter Maxine, wife Sandy, daughter Pia and granddaughter Nadine

fice. He was chair of the House of Delegates and governor of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines. He was the past president of the Rizal chapter of the IBP and the Legal Management Council of the Philippines.

#### Free legal services

Cayetano has handled many sensational cases, pro bono. These included the Pepsi Paloma rape case, where he served as private prosecutor; the Manila Filmfest scam on behalf of former Mayor Alfredo Lim; and the libel case filed by then President Corazon Aquino against columnist Louie Beltran.

The most famous case he handled pro bono was the Vizconde massacre where he served as private prosecutor for Lauro Vizconde. In January 2000, all the accused were found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment.

To reach as many people as possible, he hosted "Companero y Companera," a popular

public service program that offered free legal advice to television viewers and radio listeners.

In May 1998, Cayetano was elected senator, posting the second highest votes. The freshman senator became the chair of the committee of justice and human rights and the vice chair of the committee on public order and illegal drugs. He was also the minority leader in the Commission on Appointments and a member of the Judicial and Bar Council and the BIR Oversight Committee. Before the 11th Congress adjourned on Feb. 9, he assumed the post of the Senate minority floor leader, making him an ex-officio member of all Senate committees.

During his first three years as a lawmaker, Cayetano filed a number of bills and resolutions aimed at speeding up the dispensation of justice for criminal cases and curbing graft and corruption. Through his efforts, the Supreme Court

Despite their diverse preoccupations, Sen. Renato Cayetano and his family get their act together when it comes to serving the people

issued Administrative Order No. 51-96 designating criminal courts in Metro Manila and other cities. These special criminal courts exclusively hear cases involving heinous crimes, the trial of which should be finished in 60 days.

It was also during this time that he showed a special concern for the rights of consumers. Through his Resolution No. 579, he fought for the ban on collection of parking fees by shopping malls. The Senate committee on commerce and industry and the committee on justice on human rights found that collection of parking fees and the provision of waiver of liability stated in parking tickets issued by the malls, are illegal.

The senator authored or co-authored RA 8799 or the Securities Regulation Code, RA 8749 or the Clean Air Act, RA 8792 or the E-Commerce Law, and RA 9006 or the fair elections act.

He is responsible for RA 9048, which prevented the tedious and expensive judicial process to correct clerical and typographical errors in an entry in personal legal documents at the city or municipal registrars. It used to be that interested parties had to hire the services of a lawyer and bear the cost of litigation to correct a wrong entry. RA 9139, which he also authored, provides for the acquisition of Philippine citizenship for certain aliens by administrative naturalization.

#### Family dream

Meanwhile, his wife and four children feel comfortable and very much at home here.

Sandra Schramm Cayetano, who has stood by the senator through thick and thin, co-owned and co-managed a pre-school known as Ann Arbor Montessori for 19 years. She retired a few years ago and went back to her first love, which is writing and illustrating children's books. She has written around 200 books and has donated thousands of copies of them to Grade 1 pupils of Pateros, Taguig and Muntinlupa public schools.

## Fund-raising project

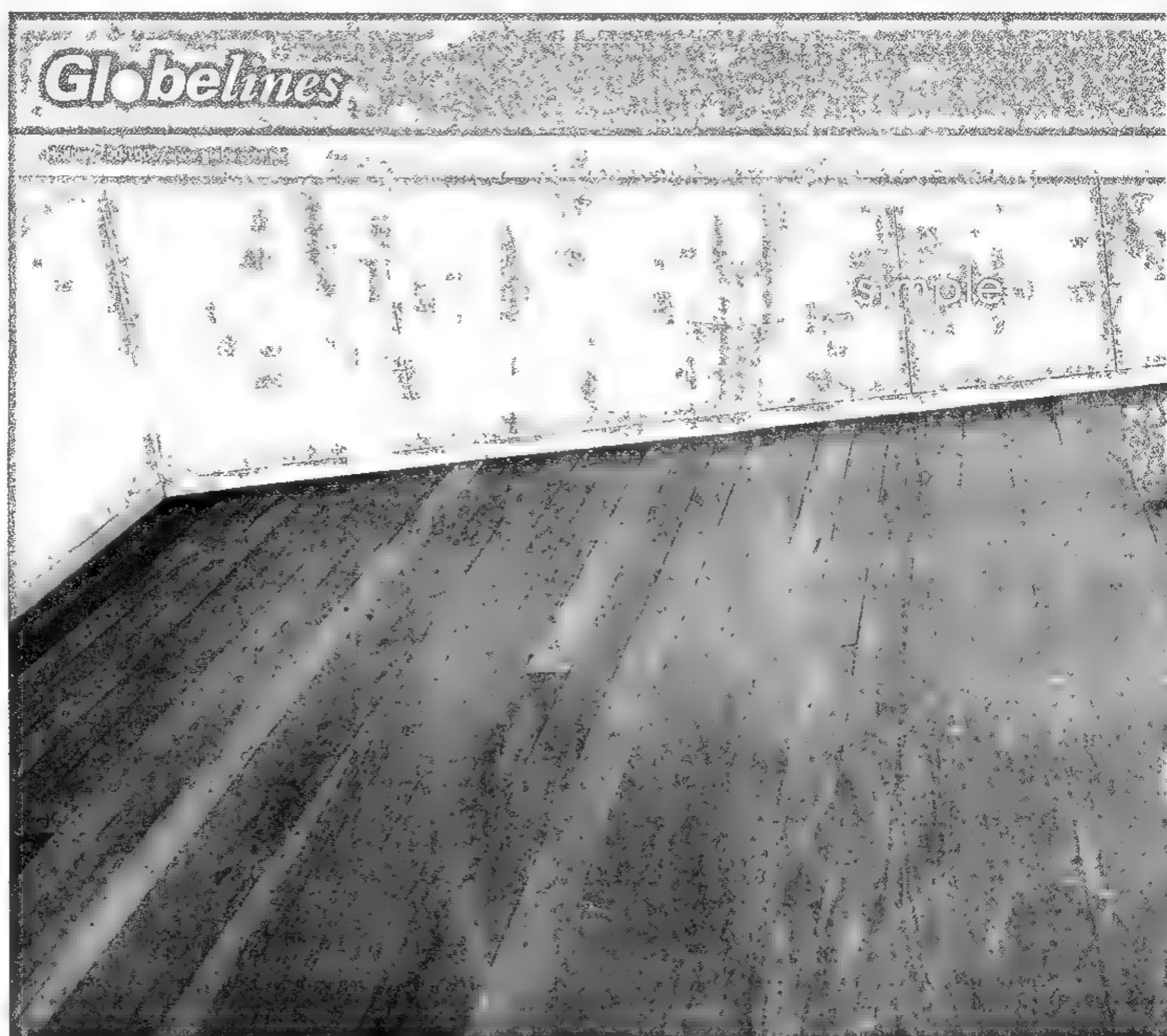
THE CHOSEN Children Village Foundation and the Abot Pangarap Foundation Inc. are embarking on a joint project to help raise much-needed funds for their respective endeavors.

Chosen Children has been providing care for the physically and mentally handicapped and abandoned children in a family-type environment since 1989.

Chosen Children Village in Silang, Cavite was started in 1994 to house and care for those children, many of whom will never be adopted. At present, eight cottages, a school, a physiotherapy center, an administration building and staff house, have been completed. Funding for the continuing construction of this village has been an ongoing project of the Chosen Children Village Foundation.

Abot Pangarap Foundation Inc. has been providing financial assistance for the education of underprivileged children of St. Martin School in Baguio. The unique curriculum of St. Martin School integrates the culture, values and practices of the Cordillera. This combination of education and preservation of an indigenous culture requires tremendous support. At present, the foundation is raising funds for the construction of new classrooms.

In response to these needs, they will hold "The Merry Merchants Bazaar" on Sept. 30 at the Hotel Inter-Continental in Makati. Tickets will be sold at the entrance. Call Cecile Diaparis at 832-1546, 831-3627 or fax 832-2760.



The Cayetanos will be marking their 35th wedding anniversary this year. Pia, their eldest child and only daughter, is a lawyer-entrepreneur. She is married with three children. Her company is the exclusive distributor of award-winning developmental toys for infants. She owns three infant specialty shops: Maxi-Bear and Just Born, located in Ayala Center, Makati, Festival Mall and Alabang Town Center, and Maxi-

toylab, the country's first and only educational toy store.

Alan Peter, the eldest of the senator's three sons, is on his second term as congressman of the lone district of Taguig-Pateros. He started his political career as the youngest councilor of the country in 1992 when he was elected as No. 1 councilor of Taguig. In 1998, he was elected congressman, the youngest in the 11th Congress. A political

science graduate from UP, he took up law at the Ateneo de Manila University law school.

Ren, the second son, was recently elected councilor in Muntinlupa. Active in sports, he is a former junior golf champion and member of the UP varsity golf team and former assistant coach of the UP Maroons basketball varsity team. He is a UP public administration graduate. He studied e-commerce

at the New York University in New York City. He is presently taking up a master's degree in entrepreneurship at the Asian Institute of Management.

Lino, the youngest, is a film graduate from UP. He recently came back to the Philippines after taking further studies in film and the arts in New York. Among the schools he attended were the School of Visual Arts, NYU and New York

Film Academy. He co-founded Creative Perspective Network, specializing in film and video. He is on his way to becoming a writer-director-cinematographer.

During the impeachment of former President Joseph Estrada, Cayetano was among the 10 senator-judges who courageously voted for the opening of the second envelope, which was opposed by 11 pro-Estrada senator-judges.

What transpired after that is now history.

Now, the Cayetanos of Taguig City are up to bigger things in the way of further serving the people. For one, the senior Cayetano has drawn up a bicameral coalition that would put on top of its agenda the passage of key economic reforms to fast-track the alleviation of poverty and the creation of new jobs.

**WANNA GO TO NEW YORK?**

**it's all in here.**

# Little-known Cebu town gets on the IT superhighway

BY CONSTANTINO C. TEJERO  
PHOTOS BY NOLI TOMACRUZ

**S**OME 75 km south of Metro Cebu is the town of Dumanjug. It is the only municipality in the province that has information technology facilities, having a Systems Technology Institute branch.

It was just natural then that when the Coca-Cola Co. donated several Pentium III computers for rural students, they were sent to Dumanjug. On July 24, the beverage company inaugurated the Coca-Cola edventure center, the first of 15 state-of-the-art, Internet-ready computer laboratories to be set up in selected public high schools in rural areas of the country.

The program was launched in cooperation with the Foundation for Information Technology Education and Development (FIT ED), a nongovernment organization established to "increase IT awareness in the Philippines and contribute to the effort to enable Philippine society in the Information Age."

The school chosen as the first edventure site was Bitoon National Vocational High School, with a student population of 1,426 and a teaching and nonteaching staff of 45. The 21 brand-new computers were installed in two days, complete with Internet access and educational software.

The Bitoon school is quite nice with a clean lawn, a new streamlined modern main building of cream and burnt sienna, swaying walls of yellow and old rose with orange railing. Tall narra, tapering Indian trees, swaying betel nut trees, a fruit-laden *nangka* dot the yard.

## The first step

On the morning of the computer lab's inauguration, the words "Welcome Visitors" were written in orange, yellow and blue chalk on a blackboard facing the street and placed on top of a staircase. The excited children—the boys wearing white shirts and blue pants and the girls in white blouses and maroon skirts—greeted everyone: "Good morning, visitors!"

They gathered in an inner yard surrounded by *nangka* trees. The air was festive with the Coca-Cola colors, in the red and white bunting, balloons and tents. Students sat and waited under the midday sun in rows of classroom desks fronting an improvised stage canopied in red.

Visitors came in trickles—members of the Cebu media, government officials led by Dumanjug Mayor Cesar Baricuatro and Cebu Gov. Pablo Garcia. From Manila came Coca-Cola Phils. president James Harting, FIT ED chair Roberto Romulo, FIT ED program director Lulu Macapagal-Arroyo, Education Undersecretary Isagani Cruz.

In less than an hour, the program was over, including the speeches of officials, a folk dance by students, and the signing of the memorandum of agreement. The Coca-Cola edventure center was finally launched. This was the first step toward the realization of Harting's dreams.

In his remarks before officials, teachers and students, Harting narrated that during the formal launching of Coca-Cola edventure in Malacañang last April, he observed that President Macapagal-Arroyo's office had "a massive computer monitor beside her desk, along with



STUDENTS of Bitoon National Vocational High School experience the magic of global interconnectivity



COCA-COLA Phils. president Jim Harting signs the official turnover documents at the Coca-Cola edventure inauguration in Dumanjug.



Jim Harting (standing, center) and DECS Undersecretary Dr. Isagani Cruz (left)

some electronic equipment that certainly looked state-of-the-art."

His thoughts momentarily wandered. "How wonderful it would be. I thought, if all that equipment in the President's office could one day be standard in a public school in the country, or anywhere in the world for that matter!"

## Another dream

Aside from aiming to develop the students' IT skills and further their studies through electronic learning, the project also includes a comprehensive training course for teachers. Coca-Cola has committed an initial P17.5 million to cover the first-year costs, which will benefit some 10,000 students and 500 teachers during the project's first phase.

The President praised the initiative as "an innovative effort to help close the digital gap in our country."

FIT ED will monitor the project, while Coca-Cola will handle the costs of repairs and maintenance of the computer lab for the first six months.

Bitoon school principal Corazon Pumar said that even before the center was inaugurated, she had already made some preparations for the time when the school would be on its own. She said she has approached the mayor and several government officials and asked them to help when the time came.

While President Macapagal-Arroyo in her State of the Nation Address last Monday was



JIM Harting, FIT ED chair Roberto Romulo (right) and FIT-ED program director Lulu Macapagal-Arroyo watch a student on one of the 21 brand-new Pentium III computers donated by the Coca-Cola Co.

still promising to empower Filipinos through her administration's national IT education policy, a soft drink company and an NGO had already started to turn the dream to reality.

Mayor Baricuatro commented that he believed his little town would one day become the center of information technology in that part of Cebu. From what we just witnessed, we know that such a dream could come true.

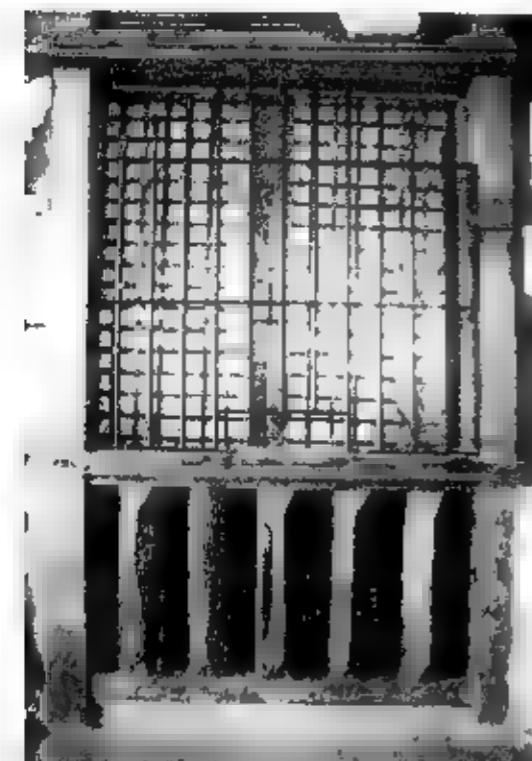
# Futuristic film inspires restoration of old church

(From page C1)

filmmakers had to raise and repair the muddy flooring. Father Nes, who had been conducting Mass under an old parachute set up as a tent in the churchyard, had an inspiration as he saw the improvement the foreigners had done.

"We have to save the church because it's a beautiful church," says Father Nes.

Repairs were done by portion as funds trickled in from different parishes in Pampanga and the people who still live in Bacolor. The dome had to undergo a major overhaul as cracks had appeared in the two adobe arches that supported it. Father Nes consulted structural engineers who suggested building another arch at the end of the nave near the altar,



A PORTION of the bale part. The wood came from the church



THE ALTAR was dug from the mud.

The new arch, which is similar in appearance to the old ones, is now made of concrete and iron.

A mini dike was built around the church to prevent the mudflow and water from Mt. Pinatubo from entering every time it rained. Father Nes points to a landscaped churchyard. "That was not intended for a garden or a courtyard. That area was raised to become a mud dike."

The priest had the wooden ceilings of the church removed, exposing the original adobe wall and antique wood beams, which added character to the old church. But ventilation in the church was not enough so Father Nes had

small windows built in the roof. He also had the roof covered with insulation material from the inside. "We still have to cover that exposed insulation. Its color doesn't go with the wood and the adobe."

## Back where she belongs

The main altar and the other *retablos* were dug up from under the mud and the *santos* were restored to their original niches. The Virgin of La Naval, patroness of the parish, is now back in her proper place in the altar. New pews, lights and a sound system have been installed and the electrical connections re-wired.

Father Nes converted into a museum what

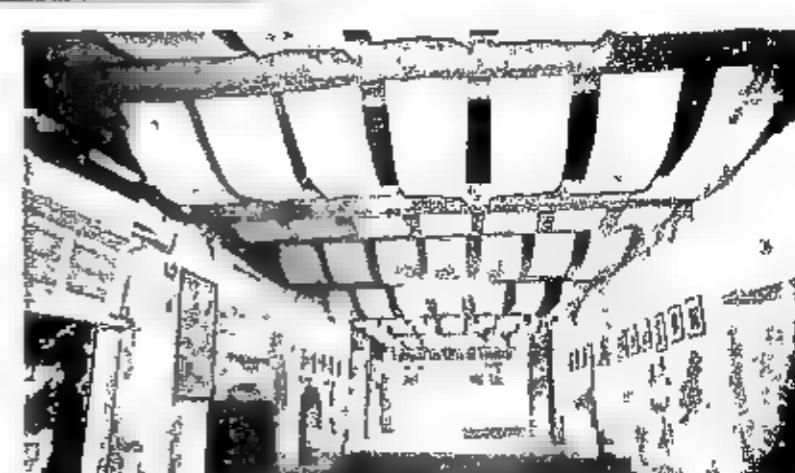
remained of the St. Mary's convent and school attached to the church. Artifacts from the church and works by local artists hang on the walls. Paintings by Bacolor artists were done on wood taken from the old church. The museum seems as eerie as the dungeons in old Intramuros, except that the floor is made of sand.

The wood and iron grills from the church, which were pulled away by the mudflow, were used for the construction of the *bale part* or house of the priest beside the church.

Father Nes says there's still much to be done to the church. "Everything here was totally destroyed, even the hope of the people," says Father Nes, remembering the time lahar buried Bacolor. "But there was a spot of hope—the church that remained and the few people who stayed. The bishop was telling me to leave and they would close the parish of Bacolor. As a young priest, I couldn't leave my house that easily."

Through the restored church and the support of the parishioners, Father Nes realized the real meaning of "grace," which used to be only an abstract idea in theology class.

"Here, we live by the grace of God that comes like the flow of the water. In times of disaster, we fully feel the presence of God," he said.



THE ST. MARY'S SCHOOL AND CONVENT, NOW A MUSEUM



THE COMPUTERS inside the Children's Library give kids a chance to browse the Internet where they can gather helpful and informative data.

## Donations to library now tax-deductible

THE PHILIPPINE Council for NGO Certification (PCNC) has granted the Children's Library the status of donor institution.

The accreditation will allow sponsors to get a 100 percent tax deduction for grants to the library. It boosts the library's mission to establish quality, nonprofit multimedia children's libraries. Among recent donors was Magnus Phils, which committed to the Children's Library a donation of P100,000 to mark its first anniversary in the Philippines in May.

The PCNC Evaluation Team thoroughly examined every aspect of the Children's Library, including its program of activities, structure, systems, financial records and relevance to the community, before granting it a one-year certification.

The Children's Library has served almost 200,000 people at its Robinsons Galleria and Linus branches. It will open a satellite branch in Novaliches in October.

The Children's Library's is a project of the Gokongwei Brothers Foundation. Call the Children's Library office at 636-3520/7682.

## California students donate books for Sierra Madre kids

CHILDREN of the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park have something to be happy about. On Aug. 4, about 20,000 books donated by schoolchildren of the state of California, USA, will reach the Sierra Madre children. Forty public schools in that rugged region in the northeast Philippines will receive, on the average, 500 books in various subjects such as natural sciences, mathematics, English language and literature.

The Books for the Barangay Foundation Inc., the organization responsible for sourcing the books, shares the same vision as the Books for the Barrios, its counterpart in the US. The BBFI is devoted to acquiring and distributing quality secondhand textbooks and learning materials from the US, as well as overruns from publishers such as the National Geographic. (In the last 20 years, the BBFI has distributed almost 4,200,000 books nationwide. In general, BBFI's donations support the National Book Distribution program of the DECS.)

"Of course, distributing 20,000 books is no easy job," says BBFI president Miguel Fernandez. "For every 20-ft container-load of books, we need P300,000 to cover warehousing, shipping, handling, forwarding and other administrative expenses. This is where our partners, American President Lines and LBC Express Inc. come in."

Fernandez said the province of Isabela and the regional offices of the DECS and the DENR will participate by selecting the most appropriate recipient public elementary schools and sponsoring the Friendship Ceremony on Aug. 4.

The event will be graced by the presence of DENR Secretary Heherson Alvarez and Isabela Gov. Faustino Dy Jr. Two global development organizations, Conservation International, Phils., a conservant organization with head offices in Washington, D.C., and Plan International Phils. will provide all the logistical arrangements for books depots, boats, gasoline, vehicles and field coordination for the activity.

Nestle

KitKat

HOMIEZ

A BREEZE

HOMIEZ

Every SAT

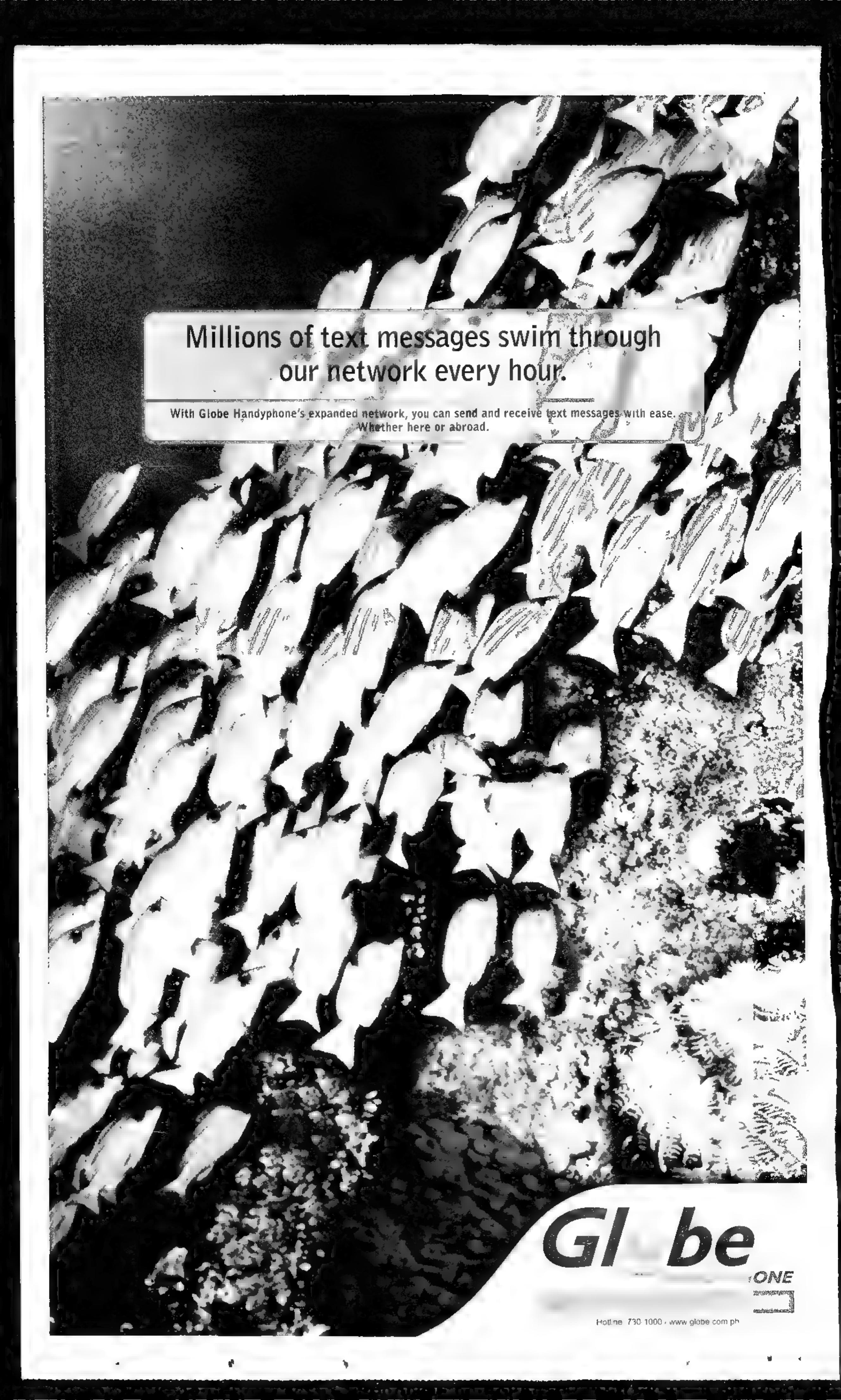
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PARTYING at the Hudson bar



RISSA strikes a pose at the Hudson's garden lobby.



"If you touch my hair, I will kill you."

## Benetton and the united colors of optimism

(From page D1)

Hotel (where we were billeted) to tumultuous Times Square to the chi-chi clubs of the NYC night life. Filipina beauty at its finest.

### No-goo guy

Now back to the shoot. After what seemed like an eternity, my turn came. The stylist chose my clothes and accessories. I then proceeded to the makeup artist, which took all of five minutes (he hardly touched my face—thank God for Oriental skin). I did not put any goo in my hair on Rissa's advice, as the look would depend on the shoot's stylist.

They put my hair up—super up. As in "I just saw-the-scariest-anime-movie-in-my-life" kind of up. "See, it is good to change your look," said the stylist, looking at me from the dressing room mirror, oh-so-proud of her work. Little did she know, this had been how I styled my hair the past five years. Still, it felt good to be pampered.

They were shooting five girls and one guy (me!) that day. But during the shoot, some models would arrive at the studio for a go-see (modelspeak for audition). Different looks, some with ethnic backgrounds, rushed in and out of the studio. Being typically Filipino, we took it upon ourselves to be the welcoming committee for these models, offering them food, making them feel at home—ah, our innate hospitality!

We later learned that we were the only ones cast from abroad—flown in and taken care of like "imported goods." Everybody else was selected in the US.

Then our moments arrived. Rissa was asked to move in circular paths with her body, as our British photographer James Mollison captured her in her element.

When my turn came, a trampoline was brought in. "Good," I told myself. "I'll just jump and jump." And jump I did. Not to mention kick—front kicks, side kicks and back kicks—thank God for Vanessa Garcia's taekwondo classes. It seemed like I jumped for 30 minutes; after a while, my feet were killing me.

### Ready for close-up

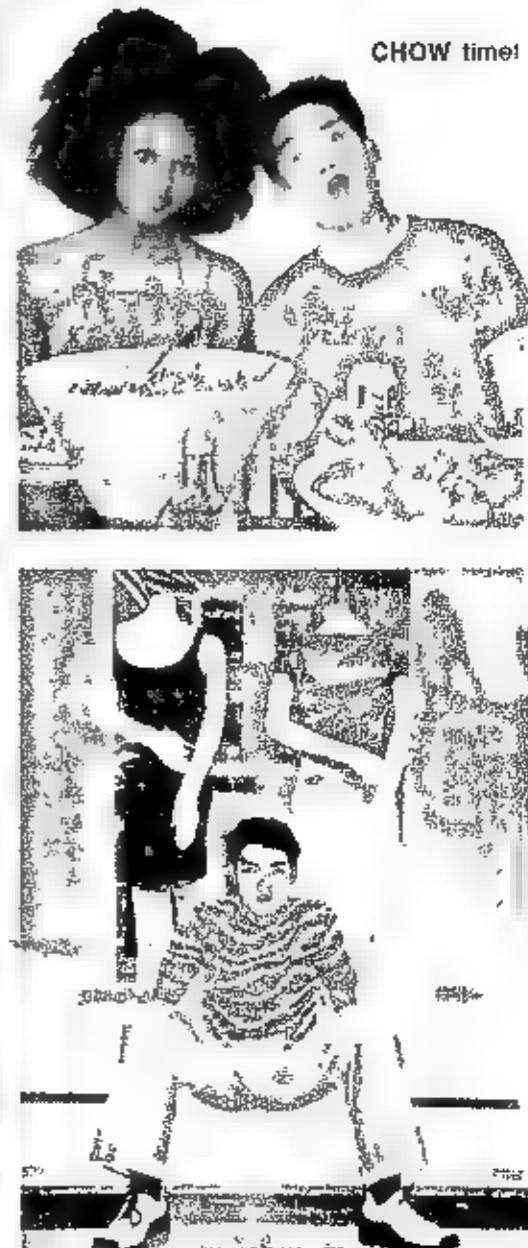
We had another change of clothes as we did our close-ups. Rissa was made to do ballet poses since the photographer learned of her solid ballet background.

When it was my turn, I just stood there, looking at the camera. Then they took me and I froze. "Think happy thoughts," I heard me on. Pressure filled my mind. It is as if mental pictures of the Abu Sayyaf and the peso-dollar exchange rate flashed across my sub-

Our resident party scene chronicler gets to be the face of Benetton along with rising star Rissa Samson in the global fashion house's Spring 2002 campaign



THE AUTHOR and Rissa Samson at Sun Studios, New York after the Benetton Spring 2002 fashion shoot



BEHIND the scenes before the shoot



UP, UP AND AWAY. Michelle, from Marilyn modeling agency



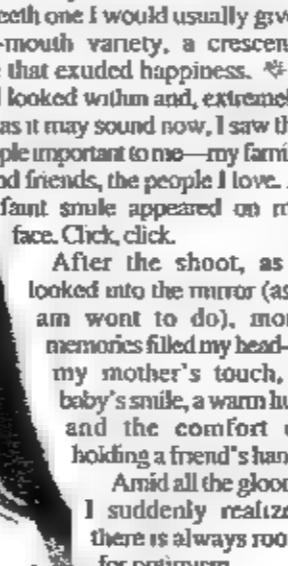
MODEL Browna who is 14 years old



SET to conquer the world



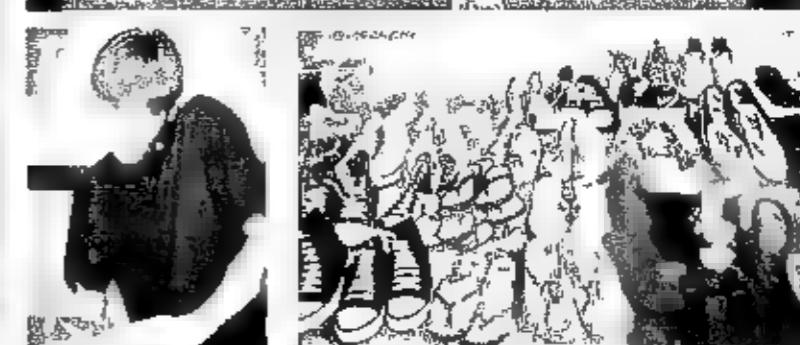
BENETTON'S PR man Mark Major with Jeannie Hernandez from Ben Phili.



MODELS do eat, too!



MANNEQUIN, TOO! Rissa hangs it up at Benetton's Fifth Avenue flagship store



MALE CALL. Model awaiting his turn



SHOE shopping for wannabe Imeldas



BRITISH photographer James Mollison with assistant Dean



BENETTON TEAM. Stylist Isabel, Brice and Susanna dining at Pastis after the shoot

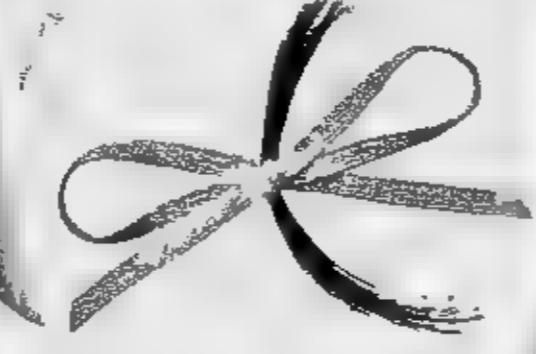


CASTING WALL. Polaroid photos of models line the studio wall. Those that remain face up, get the job.



CLOTHES HORSE. Benetton's Spring 2002 wardrobe

# Mementos of a cherished milestone in baby's life.



## PHOTOS AND MEMORIES OF BABY'S FIRST HAIRCUT

Johnson's Baby Shampoo celebrated a  
milestone in baby's life... Baby's First Haircut!

It was the perfect host to hundreds of babies who  
trooped to SM Megamall from June 29 to July 1  
to get a free haircut, to watch a magic show and a  
bubble show, and to bring home a special photo  
frame that carried their photos and lock of hair from  
their first haircut!

It was the perfect bonding moment for mommies  
and their babies... and baby's first shampoo,  
Johnson's Baby Shampoo

If you and your baby missed this memorable event,  
Johnson's Baby Shampoo would like you to be a  
part of the next one.  
Watch out for it!



Sharing a special moment with you.

Johnson & Johnson

33

Ge



**(2) Sony Wega 34" with DVD Home Th**

Take a shot at over P3 million worth of prizes when you download zed logos, ring tones and picture messages.

Enjoy full-blown movie entertainment at home with your own Sony Wega 34" with DVD Home Theater System from Get zed! Get SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, and Talk 'N Text subscribers can download any logo, picture message, icon, or ring tone to get a virtual raffle coupon. The more you download, the better your chances of winning any of the cool Sony, Nike, Nintendo, and Oakley products every week. The Sony Home Theater System together with other Sony, Piaggio, and Compaq products will also be given away in our grand raffle draws. How's that for getting a different point of view? Hurry and load up on zed now!

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zed

33

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(4) Piaggio Vespa PX 150



(12) Sony Handycam DCR-PC9



(8) Compaq iPAQ Pocket PC



(12) Sony Cyber Shot DSC P305V



(10) Sony Wega 23"

Teletron



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Promo until October 7, 2001

# Get zed! Get loaded!



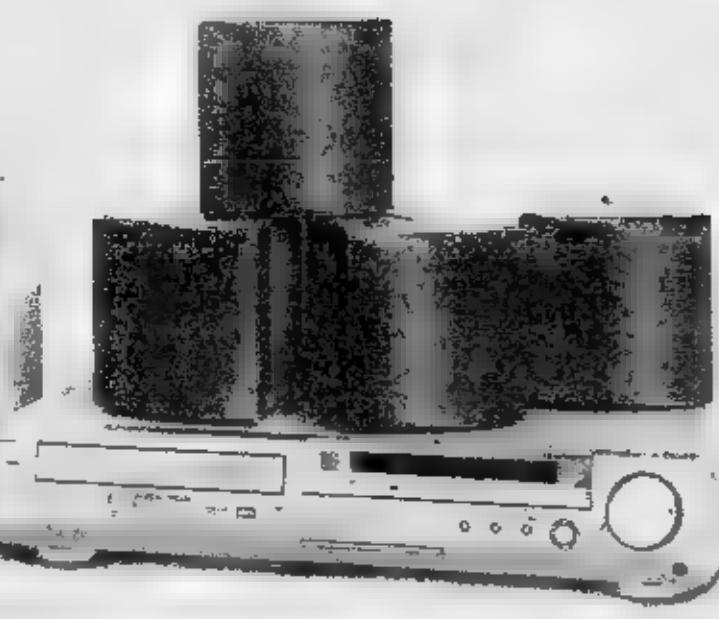
(10) Sony V Series Mini Component



(10) Oakley Penny



(10) Gameboy Advance



reater System



(20) Oakley Penny



(10) Oakley Penny



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## Get zed! Get loaded!

### COMPLETE MECHANICS:

1. To join the promo, simply key-in JOIN GETZ <name>/<address> and send to 288 prior to downloading. Example: JOIN GETZ Gigi Ocampo/108 Herrera St., Makati City, send to (288). To find out how many virtual entries you have, key-in ENTRY GETZ and send to 288. Key-in HELP GETZ for more information.
2. Once a subscriber registers, he can download or send as many logos, ring tones, picture messages, or icons as he wishes. Every successful transaction entitles you to one (1) virtual raffle entry. There can only be one registered name per cellular phone number. In the event that another person registers using the same number, the original name registered will be the one recognized. However, one person can register several mobile numbers at one time.
3. Services qualified are:
 

Operator logo	:	Keyword LOGO
Group icon	:	Keyword ICON
Ring tone	:	Keyword TONE
Picture Msg	:	Keyword PIC

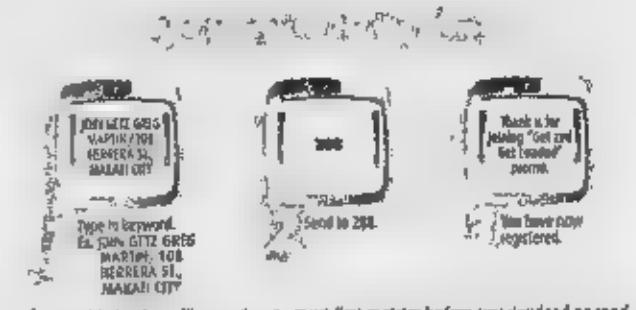
 Subscribers will be charged ₱12.00 for every successful transaction.
4. Should a participant wish to get important key words for the services, he keys in HELP LOGO, HELP TONE, HELP PIC, or HELP ICON and he will receive through text the important key words for the services.
5. All raffle draws will take place at 10:00 a.m., at the Sonera zed Office, 27th Floor, Tower II, Enterprise Building, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City.

The draw schedule and the promotion period covered are as follows:

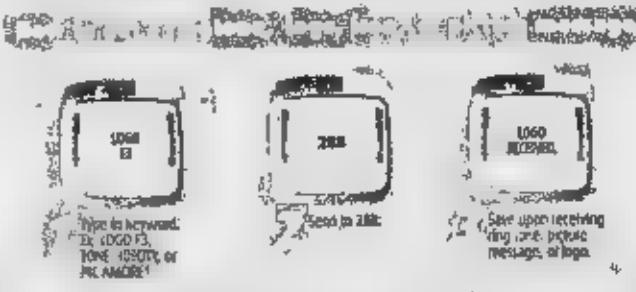
Week 1	Prize Period	Draw Date
Week 2	July 29 - August 5, 2001	August 6, 2001
Week 3	August 6 - 12, 2001	August 13, 2001
Week 4	August 13 - 19, 2001	August 20, 2001
Week 5 / 1st Monthly	August 20 - 26, 2001	August 27, 2001
Week 6	September 3 - 9, 2001	September 10, 2001
Week 7	September 10 - 16, 2001	September 17, 2001
Week 8	September 17 - 23, 2001	September 24, 2001
Week 9	September 24 - 30, 2001	September 31, 2001
Week 10 / 2nd Monthly	October 1 - 7, 2001	October 8, 2001

For the 10 Weekly Draws	For the 2 Monthly Grand Draws
(2) Sony ID Webcam	(4) Compaq iPAQ Pocket PC
Sony V-Series Mini-amps	(3) Philips Verpa PX 150
Sony Mega 29" (73.56 cm)	Sony Cyber Shot DSC F505
Sony Cyber shot DSC F505V	Sony Handycam DCR-PC1
Sony Handycam DCR-PC1	Sony Mega 34" (86.36 cm) w/ 800 Home Theater System
Gameboy Advance	
Nike Triax 50 Lape	
Gailey Penny	
Gailey Penny	

6. Taxes for all prizes will be shouldered by Sonera zed.
7. A participant can only win once. Should a winner's name be drawn more than once, he gets the prize of higher value and another entry will be generated in its place.
8. All winners of the weekly and grand draw will be informed initially via a text message and registered mail. From the date of notification, winners have until 60 days to claim their prize. Prizes not claimed within the given period will be forfeited in favor of Sonera zed with prior approval from DTI.
9. To claim your prize, please bring your cellular phone with the congratulatory text message, your letter of notification, and a valid ID to Ace Saatchi & Saatchi, 10th Floor, Feliza Building, 108 Herrera Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City. For Vis-Min provincial winners, prizes will be shipped to them and winners will be informed on details of how to claim their prize.
10. Employees of Smart Communications, Sonera zed, Ace Saatchi & Saatchi, as well as non-revenue Smart special subscribers, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.



To qualify for the raffle pools, you must first register before you download or send.



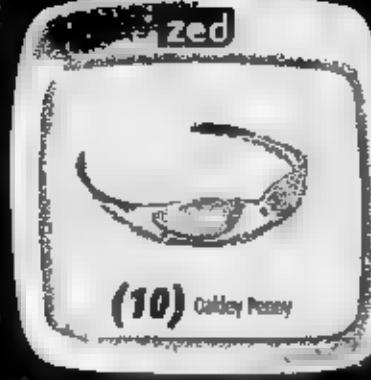
To get the latest list of the newest ring tones, logos, icons, and picture messages, type in TONE NEW, LOGO NEW, ICON NEW, or PIC NEW and send to 288. Available for selected zed mobile phones. ₱12.00 for every successful download.

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# Get zed! Get loaded!



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[www.zed.com](http://www.zed.com)

## Get zed! Get loaded!

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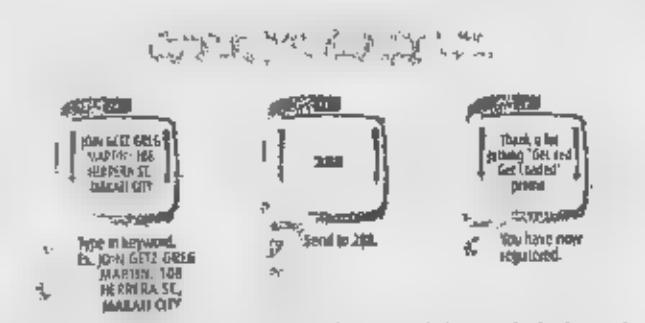
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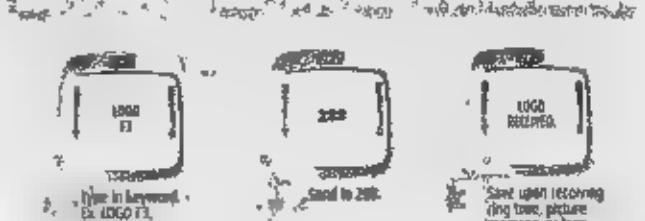
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Week 8	September 17 - 23, 2001	September 24, 2001
Week 9/ 2nd Monthly	September 24 - 30, 2001	October 1, 2001
Week 10	October 1 - 7, 2001	October 8, 2001

Prizes at stake are as follows:  
 For the 10 Weekly Draws: For the 2 Monthly Grand Draws:  
 (2) Sony CD Walkman (4) Compaq iPAQ Pocket PC  
 Sony V-Series Mini-amps (2) Piaggio Vespa PK 150  
 Sony Handycam DCR-PC1 (2) Sony Cyber Shot DSC F55W  
 Sony Handycam DCR-PC9 Sony Handycam DCR-PC9  
 Gameboy Advance Sony Vega 2.4" (86.36 cms) w/ 160GB Home Theater System  
 Nike Triax 50 Laps Goldkey Penny  
 Goldkey Minute jacket

6. Taxes for all prizes will be shouldered by Sonera zed.
7. A participant can only win once. Should a winner's name be drawn more than once, he gets the prize of higher value and another entry will be generated in its place.
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To get the latest list of the newest ring tones, logos, icons, and picture message, type in TONE NEW, LOGO NEW, ICON NEW, or PIC NEW and send to 288. Available for selected Nokias cell phones. ₱12.00 for every successful download.

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**SONY**

\*Per DILG-NCL Permit No. 0497 Series of 2001.

The image is a black and white advertisement for a mobile phone service. It features a central mobile phone with a large, prominent antenna. The phone's screen displays a collage of various mobile phone interfaces, including screens for 'Logo', 'Sports', 'Chess', 'Formula 1', 'Golf', 'Love', 'Golf', 'Football', 'Basketball', 'Workout', 'Diving', 'Swimming', 'Running', and 'Dancing'. Below the phone, there are two rows of small icons representing different themes or functions. The overall composition is a dense, layered collage of mobile technology and personal communication.

**Cancel boredom from your cell phone.**

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Available exclusively to SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, and Talk It! Text subscribers for selected Nokia cell phones. \$12.00 for every successful download.

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ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor  
GRACE PENALES, Account Manager  
SPROJECTS@INQUIRER.COM.PH

Lucky Me!

MANOK  
mania



Lucky Me!



## A big 'chicken surprise' by Lucky Me! in Marikina

IT WAS one big "chicken surprise" to residents in various barangays in Marikina when Lucky Me! held a fiesta event in Riverbanks Center last July 8.

The "Lucky Me! Chicken na Chicken Mami Manok Mania" event created quite a stir in the community when colorful floats depicting different representations of the chicken paraded on the main streets and proceeded to Riverbanks for the variety show and games.

The "Chika Float" parade was a contest participated in by the different barangays to highlight the native chicken taste of Lucky Me! "Chicken na Chicken" mami.

Delighted residents flocked to the covered parking lot of Riverbanks to participate in the fun games conducted by hosts Winnie Cordero and Raffy Rodriguez.

There was the "Limbonok" contest, where participants did the chicken dance while attempting to bend their bodies under a rod. Contestants got tongue tied saying "Lucky Me! mas chicken na

Cordero and Rodriguez, young stars Chubi del Rosario and Anne Curtis entertained the barangay crowd with lively performances.

The winner of the Chika Float Award was Barangay Barangka, which got the P50,000 grand prize. Barangay Sto. Niño's float was named as "Pinaka-Chicken Float," Barangay Tañong's was "Pinaka-Lucky Me!," and Barangay Parang's was "People's Choice." These barangays received P10,000 each as prize money.

Two other barangays, Barangay Kalumpang and Concepcion 2, received P5,000 each for their winning floats.

The "Rocker" chicken owned by Thurt Calers from Barangay Barangka won in the "Chick Idol" event.

The almost whole-day affair was graced by Marikina Mayor Marides Fernando and representatives from Nissin Corporation and Jimenez D' Arcy Advertising namely Tony Isidro, brand manager of Lucky Me!, Steward So, Monde Nissin Corp. area distributor and Yolly Victoriano, copywriter were judges to the contests.

Lucky Me! is currently the market leader in the instant noodles category and its new and improved "Chicken na Chicken Mami" is a testimony of the company's commitment to product quality.

The Lucky Me!-inspired fiesta was one event the people in Marikina will long remember and treasure.

(Raquel P. Gomez)



Lucky Me!

Lusog Sarap Nutrition Noodles

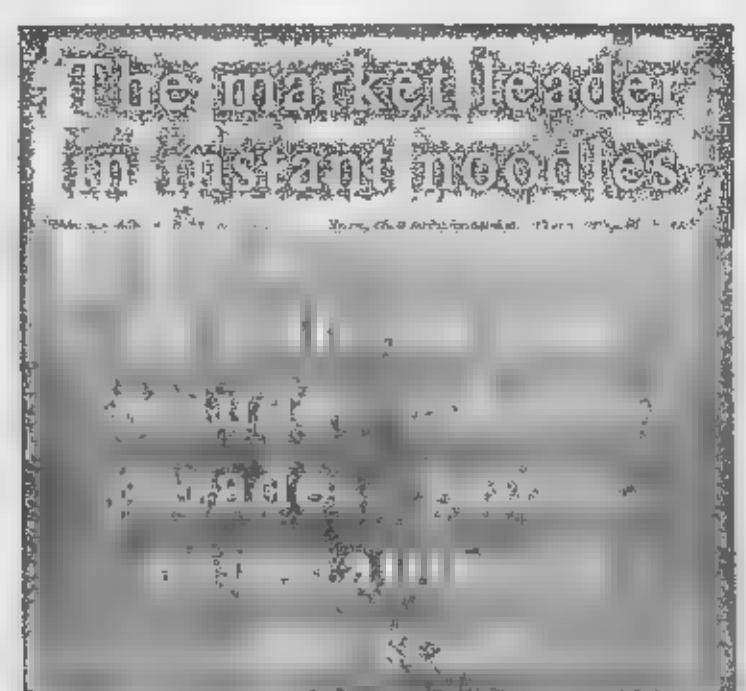
IT'S fiesta atmosphere as an Ati-Atihan group dances in the streets of Marikina



"PINAKA LUCKY ME!" float winner from Barangay Tañong



GRAND prize "Chika Float Award" is from Barangay Barangka



THE market leader in instant noodles



ENGAGING hosts and stars Chubi del Rosario, Raffy Rodriguez, Anne Curtis and Winnie Cordero



THE "Rocker" chicken (inside the giant egg shell) with "Rocker" owner



WHAT a crowd! Marikina residents trooped to Riverbanks for the games and the show



RODRIGUEZ does the chicken dance



RODRIGUEZ engages a contestant in the "Pera o Manok" segment



OWNERS with pet chickens pose for the "Chika Idol" contest, a beauty contest for chickens

Bingo  
TET

GOTHELLO

DECODE

tic  
tac  
toe

GOTHELLO

HANG  
MAN

tic  
tac  
toe

Bingo  
TET

WORD  
SEEK

Bingo  
TET

WORD  
SEEK

DECODE

GOTHELLO

tic  
tac  
toe

HANG  
MAN

HANG  
MAN

WORD  
SEEK

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other exciting SMART TXTGAMES like TicTacToe, GotHello,  
Bingo TET and more games in the future! Cellfone fun will  
never be the same again—only with SMART!  
To register in any of the games, key in REG-*nickname*.

Game	To Play	Get help and other instructions
TIC-TAC-TOE	PLAY T3	HELP T3
GOTHELLO	PLAY GTL0	HELP GTL0
BINGOTXT	PLAY BT	HELP BT
HANGMAN	PLAY HM	HELP HM
DECODE	PLAY DC	HELP DC
WORDSEEK	PLAY WS	HELP WS

Send all commands to 238.

You can also send messages to another player in all  
two player SMART TXTGAMES!  
To send a message, key in TO <nickname> <message>  
To reply to a message, key in REPLY <message>  
To find out your, or your opponent's rank, key in  
RANK <names>. Send all commands to 238.

Each message sent to 238 will be charged P2.50

HANGMAN

DECODE

WORDSEEK

TIC-TAC-TOE

GOTHELLO

BINGOTXT

Guess the letters  
in the word  
leading to the  
phrase before  
your opponent  
does.

Unscramble  
letters to reveal  
the secret word.

Outwit your  
opponent by  
forming more  
words from the  
letters in a given  
word.

Place your  
symbols in a row  
of three before  
your opponent  
does.

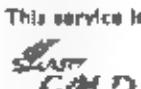
Switch your  
opponent's  
symbols into your  
own by making  
moves in slots  
where your  
opponent's  
symbols are.

Place your  
symbols in a row  
of four before  
your opponent  
does.

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## Sunday LIFESTYLE

All is set for Shahani  
NCCA 'homecoming'

COMPILED BY LITO ZULUETA



IT'S almost a done deal that former senator Leticia Ramos-Shahani will be the next chair of the National Commission on Culture and the Arts. Presidential Management Staff head Vicki Gatchitorena and other palace officials have indicated to the NCCA board that President Macapagal-Arroyo wants Shahani and would appreciate it if the former senator could be insinuated into the commission through proper channels.

So expect Shahani to emerge as head of one of the committees of the NCCA before being named one of three sub-commission chairs and, finally, NCCA chair. Since current NCCA chair Jaime Laya is too much of a gentleman to stand in a woman's way, expect Shahani's arrival to be dignified and decent, quite unlike her previous attempt to gain a foothold in the commission by goading her former Senate staff to give up her chairmanship of the Committee on Libraries. When committee members protested, Shahani said she might not be a librarian, but she was a library user.

In a way, it is going to be a homecoming for Shahani. After all, as she never tires of reminding the NCCA people, she was the author of the law that created the commission (along with Edgardo Angara and Heherson Alvarez in the Senate and Carlos Padilla in the House of Representatives, whom she does not bother to mention).

Her homecoming will also end three years of a largely empty search for a government office after her Senate term. It must be remembered that Shahani waged a lackluster campaign to become United Nations secretary-general. Then she lobbied to become Joseph Estrada's running mate (much to the chagrin of her brother), and when that failed, she ran for governor of Pangasinan. Rejected by her provincial mates, she campaigned to get the presidency of the University of the Philippines, but to no avail. The last we heard of her, she was helping her son Rajiv become governor of Pangasinan, again to no avail.

It is said that as chair of the NCCA, Shahani will end a statesmanlike air to the affairs of the commission. No doubt supporters are harping on her credentials as a diplomat, notably her stint in the United Nations. Of course, the UN is filled with diplomats and bureaucrats who help themselves to UN fat—unnecessary offices, overreaching programs, and high-sounding but really pointless conferences. The world government that is the UN is one bloated bureaucracy where petty potentates rule. Nobody loses his office, he is dispatched to another office created to accommodate another mind-boggling program and another insufferable ego.

## Presidential mismanagement staff

THE PRESIDENT does not only have to answer for the growing predictability of her appointments, she should also answer for the poor correspondence and awful protocol by her own Presidential Management Staff.

## Consider the pres-

idential appointment letter of the new board of trustees of the Cultural Center of the Philippines. The letter dated July 12 is addressed to "Sirs" at the bottom, the attention of the appointed "chairman" and "president" are called, obviously referring to Baltazar Endriga and Nes Jardin. The trouble is that the letter also appoints other members of the board, several of them women. The letter is sexist, gender-exclusive and in bad taste. Since presumably only Endriga and Jardin got copies of the letter, we wonder how the other members of the board, including the women, could think that the President had appointed them. Are their appointments valid? Do they have something to show for it?

Worse, the PMS did not formally furnish the outgoing board of Gloria Angara and Armita Rufina copies of the letter. The old board merely received a photocopy of the facsimile of the letter that had been transmitted apparently by the Endriga group to one of the CCP's offices. Is this any way to conduct the business of

HOMECOMING  
queen, Leticia  
Shahani

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For DTI-NCR Permit No. 3042, Series of 2001

**Mommy's Guide to Wound Protection**

**Is using an antiseptic cream really necessary?**

The answer is, yes. Because it helps heal your child's wound twice faster than applying nothing at all.

**Q** What's in an antiseptic cream that makes it effective in making the healing process faster?  
**A** An antiseptic cream, like Band-Aid® Brand Antiseptic Cream, contains clinically-proven antibacterial agents like cetrimide and chlorhexidine digluconate.

**Q** Does it only recommended for deep wounds?  
**A** No. Also for minor wounds which your active children usually get. Always remember that scratches, scrapes, abrasions, burns,

**Q** Can it also help relieve pain and swelling?  
**A** Yes. It can help. Some antiseptic cream brands available in the market, like Band-Aid® Brand Antiseptic Cream, have special moisturizing formula, which cools and soothes the discomfort associated with the wound.

**Q** Does it cause irritation when applied on the wound?  
**A** No. It contains no alcohol, so it does not sting nor cause any irritating feeling. It can also be absorbed by the wound quickly and effectively because it is water-based.

**Now Band-Aid® Brand Antiseptic Cream, from the**  
**BAND-AID®**  
Brand Protection Line  
years of protection of mobility

Where  
criminals

roam

free

Where the

law dare  
not go

Here is

there...



## Nestlé responds to consumer's complaint

TOO bad, writes Mozart Pastrana was no longer in town when Nestlé Philippines reacted to his complaint about buying a spoiled product. Wherever in Japan you are now, Mozart, this is how Nestlé responded to your gripe. We filled in for you during the plant tour intended to show you the step-by-step hygienic production of Nestlé chilled product.

Company officials showed us production areas for Magnolia ice cream, halo, milk, Champto, yogurt and other chilled products. According to officials, work is non-stop to assure freshness of 17 brands and 30 different products. Daily production for ice cream alone is anywhere between 12,000 to 15,000 gallons of ice cream for big containers and 3,000 gallons for ice cream in caps.

Prior to entering the plant, we were made to wear boots, a white gown and a plastic head cap. Thanks for the gown, it helped keep the chill out of our bones. We were told that chilled products are pasteurized below 4°C for maximum freshness. And they have to be kept ideally at 2-8°C to prevent quality deterioration.

Officials proved to us that from start to finish, strict sanitation is maintained and quality is strictly monitored. What's more, defective products and containers are removed, either by machine or by hawk-eyed workers.

Ian Williams, senior vice president and factory manager, pointed out that all Nestlé products in the Philippines are produced under hygienic and quality standards in keeping with the high international requirements. With hundreds of consumer products worldwide and the

big capital involved, indeed they cannot afford to take any kind of risk to destroy consumer expectations.

And, if we may add, Nestlé consumer services department cannot but respond right away to complaints. Officials encourage consumers to report defective product and erring Nestlé outlets. Interested groups can also request for a plant tour. Call Jocelyn Duran, the assistant vice president for consumer services, at 898-6261/0001 or 766-0987. Or e-mail consumerservice@ph.nestle.com.

### THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron



**Exorbitant water rates in Obando**

IF the plea for reduced rates by some 6,000 water users in Obando fall on deaf ears, they will have to pay 132 percent increase within the next five years. The new rates starting end of July is a minimum charge of P175 (P110 is current rate). After that, it will be P200 minimum charge in year 2002, P235 in 2004 and P255 in 2006.

Not surprisingly, the residents have formed the Consumers' Rights of Obando Water District, or Crowd, to put a united front against the Obando Water District. Vice president Alvin Claridad wrote to us: "The pricing scheme is far from socialized and it is the poor residents of this third-class municipality who

will bear the brunt of the onerous charges." He added that residents of nearby Malabon and Valenzuela are only paying Maynilad a minimum rate of less than P40.

**Kodak replies to complaint** TAKE good care of your digital camera because repair costs don't come cheap. Reader Edgardo Gutierrez told us he paid Kodak's accredited repair center P2,500 for fixing, within one hour, a loose knob on his Kodak Digital Camera 210. It was no longer covered by warranty.

We appreciate the prompt response of Kodak's market specialist for digital and applied imaging to the complaint of Gutierrez. Melissa Asper wrote: "Upon investigating the service transaction, we learned that the capture mode of his Kodak DC210 could no longer be set to take pictures. Two parts in the camera board—the dial mode and selector switch—had to be replaced. An allowance of five days lead time for repair is given (if spare parts are available) by our accredited repair center, the PNI Micro-digital Technical Services. In the case of Gutierrez, it was done in one day in consideration of the urgency of his request.

The P2,500 minimum charge is PNI's standard labor charge for repairs of digital cameras not covered by warranty. This cost is comparable charges at our offices in Singapore (\$50) and Hong Kong (\$45-68). By the way, Kodak does not earn from service repair payments made by PNI."

**Wyeth replies to comments** WE also appreciate the quick response of Wyeth Philippines Inc. to reader Rafael Palma's comment that



ICE cream in cup filling line at Nestlé

the company's medical ear product has no safety seal. He wrote: "Auralgan Otic solution, priced P367 for a 10-ml dose, manufactured by Hizon Laboratories for Wyeth and available at Mercury Drugstore, has no safety seal on the box and the bottle. For the price, consumers can only expect a little safety precaution."

Here is the reply of Pura Averilla, pharmaceuticals technical manager, Wyeth Philippines Inc.

"It is true that our current packaging does not use a safety seal for this product. We did not see the need to put one until the comment of Rafael Palma, thanks to him. With your valuable input, we shall provide a safety seal to secure our product. We will

prioritize this improvement and act on it as soon as possible."

### Home Cable explains

MICHELLE Ann Reyes, product manager for video value-added services of Home Cable, wrote the following reply to the complaint of Harry T. on extra charges for Chinese channels: "Last May 1, we launched Home Cable Jade, our Mandarin premium service with a successful promo where we gave away for free 1,000 addressable boxes (worth P3,500 each) for. And even after the promo, we charged only P1,500 and P55 monthly rental.

"Our Jade Channels (TVBS Asia vanity, TVB Xinghe movies and Disney Channel Mandarin) are available for only P275 monthly, VAT inclusive. "We apologize that we cannot air the Channel [V] Chinese version because all our channels are occupied with some reserved for coming premium channels."

### Paging TCA

MEANWHILE, journalist Linda Bolido wants to know from The Computer Authority when she will get the replacement for her brand new CD writer, which does not work. She was promised last Sunday, it would take no more than seven days but now it seems it will take longer than that.

Send comments and complaints to [mgiron@cst.com.ph](mailto:mgiron@cst.com.ph)

## New products now available

NEW products make shopping at S&R Price Membership Shopping Warehouse even more exciting.

S&R Price, the country's only world-class membership shopping warehouse, announced that Kidde-USA Fire Extinguisher, Dolfin Goggles and Kirkland Signature Body Wash, among others, are now available.

Also back in stock are shoppers' favorites Kraft Macaroni Cheese, Hollander Queen Pulow, Act 11 Popcorn, Gorilla Rack, Canine Dog Food and Tree Top Apple Juice. Also available are Homedics Massaging Foot Spa, PSMT Multivitamin 500 Tablets, Bertoli Olive Oil, Headstrom Trampoline, children's four-piece patio set, Flexon Garden Hose, Laundry King Detergent, Flexon Garden Hose (60" x 5/8"), Larin Floor Jack 2-ton and 3-ton shop vac, Seville Round Chafing Dish and Seville Creative Cubes.

Other bestsellers at S&R Price are rotisserie chicken, bakery items like croissants, muffins and cookies and the store's famous hotdog and pizza.

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**Lactum**  
100% NOURISHED

## INULIN

What's In It For Kids?

When one talks of fiber, does Inulin ring a bell? Now, clinical studies are singing out this natural soluble fiber commonly found in vegetables and fruits such as leeks, onions, garlic, chicory, artichokes and bananas because of its varied nutritional properties ideal for kids.

For the last 20 years or so, the role of fiber in the diet has been accepted by numerous health organizations. Fiber has been proven to help in decreasing the risks of chronic diseases such as heart problems, colon cancer, diabetes and even obesity. Much of the link between fiber and disease is largely based on epidemiologic evidence associating low fiber intake with the incidence of disease.

**NATURAL INULIN FIBER**

is a soluble fiber that has been shown to lower cholesterol levels. High-fiber treatment diets have been successful in bringing down cholesterol levels by as much as 20 to 30%, and thus may prove useful in preventing obesity, which may have its roots in childhood hypertension.

(1) Source: Dietary Fiber of Children: Bogalusa Heart Study 1995:96

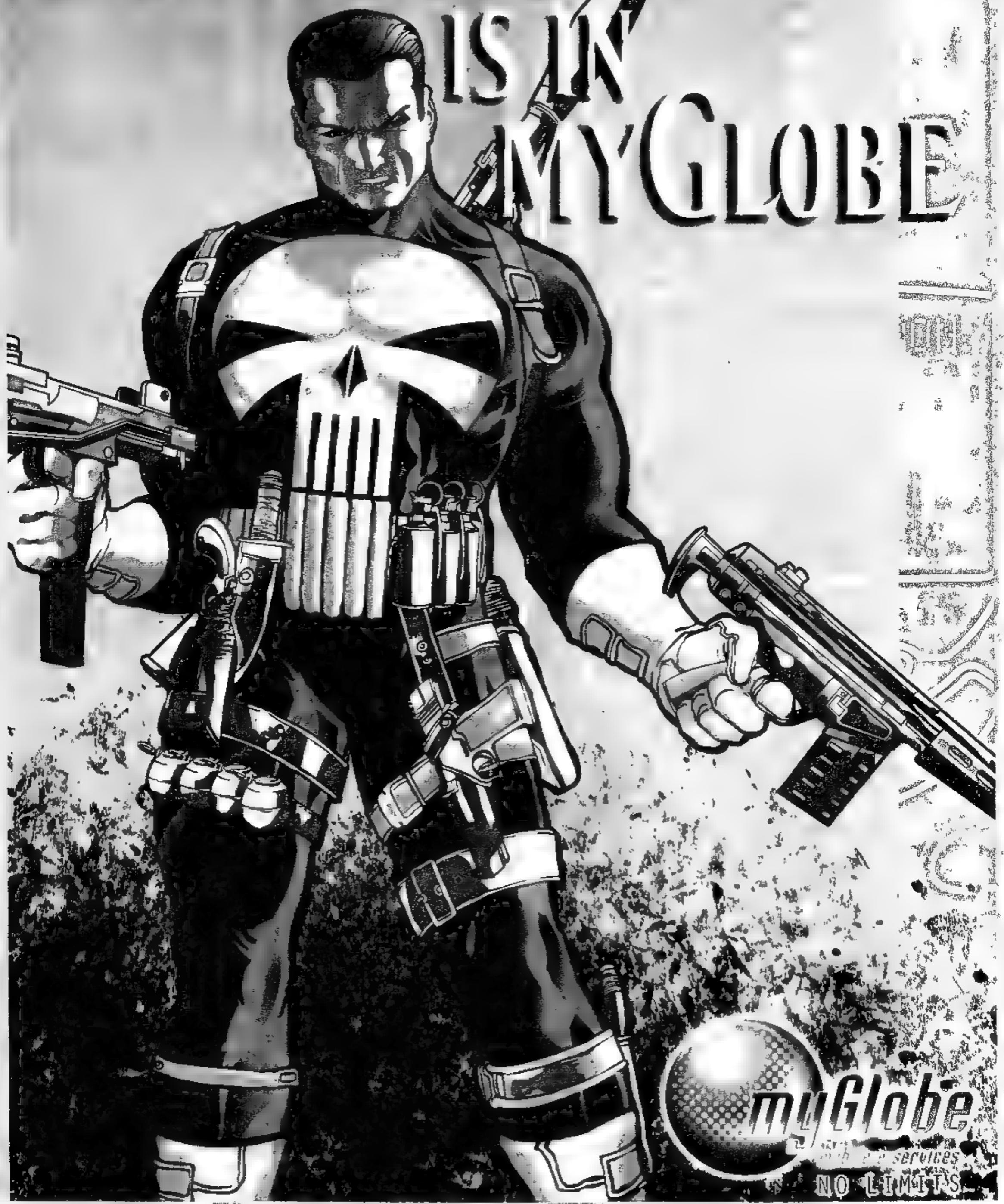
Natural Inulin Fiber is especially beneficial to digestive health by promoting normal laxation. By improving the absorption of minerals and the synthesis of vitamins, Natural Inulin Fiber plays an important role in the complete nourishment of children.

(2) Source: Dietary Fiber: A Healthy Discussion

Inulin, the next "in" thing in nutrition, is now easily accessible to moms and kids with new Lactum, now with Natural Inulin Fiber. The goodness of Inulin is now combined with the 100% nourishment found in Lactum. So moms, make sure your kids drink **Lactum** now with Natural Inulin Fiber to help 100% nourishment be 100% absorbed.

**Lactum**  
NUTRITIONALLY-BALANCED MILK FOOD  
With Natural Inulin Fiber  
HELPS MAKE YOUR CHILD A  
100% NOURISHED CHILD

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Start your crusade against crime, type-in PUNISHER, send to 2324. To register your alias, type in PUNISHER NAME [your chosen alias] and send to 2324. Example: PUNISHER NAME GUNSMITH.

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# ROBINSONS Dream Town

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ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

## A town where everyone can be young forever

BY CHARLES E. BUBAN

THREE years can be too short a time for a place to become endearing. Not for Robinsons, however. Those who have known and visited Dream Town swear the place has had a certain attachment to their lives. For them Dream Town is a place where they can be young again. For the children, it's a place where they feel they can play forever.

"It's a place that appeals to all ages. It's where families come together, where a child's fantasies come true and even fulfill a teenager's taste for adventure," says Dolie Buji, director for marketing of Robinsons Dream Centers.

The 6,700 sqm. indoor theme park in Robinsons Place Manila is the largest of the three Robinsons dream centers of Robinsons Recreation Corp., the other two being Dreamscape of Robinsons Galleria in Ortigas and Dream Zone of Robinsons Place Imus in Cavite.

To celebrate its 3rd anniversary, Dream Town will showcase a drum and lyre band exhibition starting at 10 a.m. This will be followed by a parade featuring Dream Town mascots, games, and magic shows. Lucky visitors will also get a chance to win a brand new Nokia 3310 cell phone in Dream Town's hourly raffle draw.

The day will surely be livened up as several guest bands will perform in-between draws: M Power Band, Star Records' teenage groups Fourmula Band and Kaya. "The anniversary bash is surely a day for families,

students, and guests who have been with us all these years," says Buji.

### Safety assured

Dream Town is backed up by a company with proven expertise in mall operations. Dream Town makes sure security and safety standards are met. People who supervise Dream Town are experts in the field of technical maintenance and operations, with credible experience and exposure in the field of amusement theme park operations.

"Everyday, a team makes sure every ride is working perfectly and every aspect of operation is looked into. This way, quality of service is assured all the time," reveals Buji.

Dream Town has five thrill rides and

four kiddie rides

• Amazing Racers—with powerful electric motors to drive each cart to the limits, this fast-paced ride is perfect for teens and adults.

• Enchanted Caterpillar—known as The Himalaya, this nostalgia-inducing ride was conceived by Wisdom Industries of Sterling, Colorado. With its forward and backward motions and spins of 12 revolutions per minute, the Enchanted Caterpillar offers a ride that even toddlers will surely enjoy.

• Mordred's Revenge—one of Dream Town's celebrated attractions for the family, this rugged ride enthralls riders with dazzling running lights.

• Adventurer's Arena—everybody is allowed

A TOWN/ES



GO zig and zag at the Adventurer's Arena



Photos by BETOY JOHNSON

**Dream Town's 3rd Anniversary July 29, 2001**

**SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES**

10 am Grand Mascot Parade Featuring DreamTown's Mascots & Friends.

11 am Meet & Greet Mascots

12 noon Magic Show Featuring "Master Dem"

1 pm mPower Band

2 pm Parlor Games

3 pm Star Records Featured Artists: Regine, Tiffany & Take 6

5 pm Fourmula

6 pm KAYA

**Get a chance to WIN 3310 Cellphones**

4 Lucky winners of 3310 cellphones will be drawn on Dream Town's hourly afternoon Anniversary Raffle (Simply purchase Dream Day Ticket!)

**Dream Town**  
in cooperation with  
**STAR**  
**SMART**  
presents  
**Lactum**

**ROBINSONS DREAM TOWN**

**from:**

**ROBINSONS SAVINGS BANK**

**Executive Office:**  
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EDSA corner Ortigas Avenue,  
Quezon City  
Telephone No. 638-2173 to 88  
<http://www.robinsonsbank.com.ph>

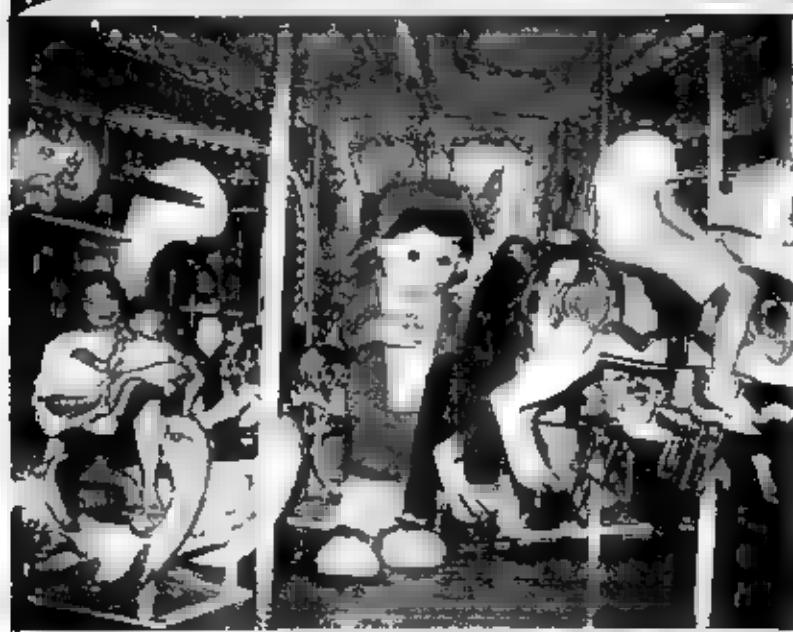
## ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

**MOVIE MAGIC IS BACK!**

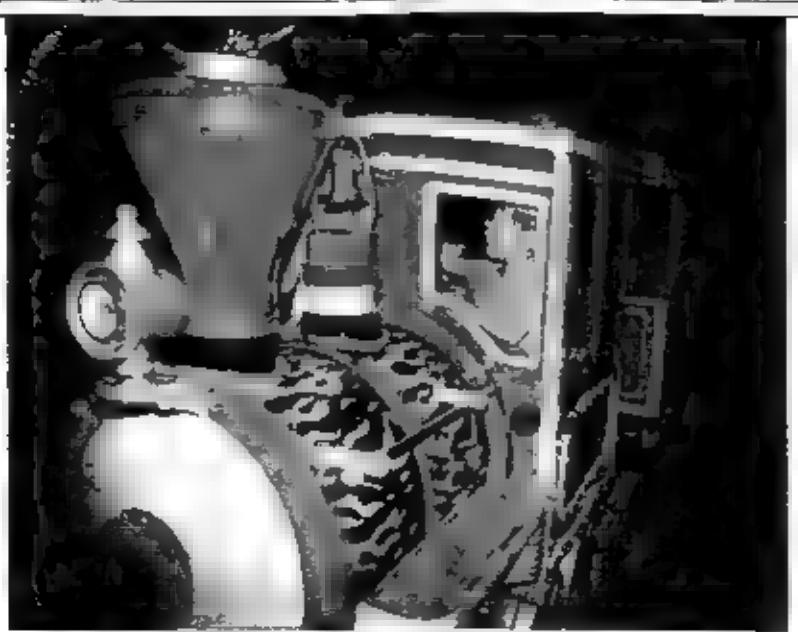
**LARGER THAN LIFE**

**SIGHTS AND SOUNDS**

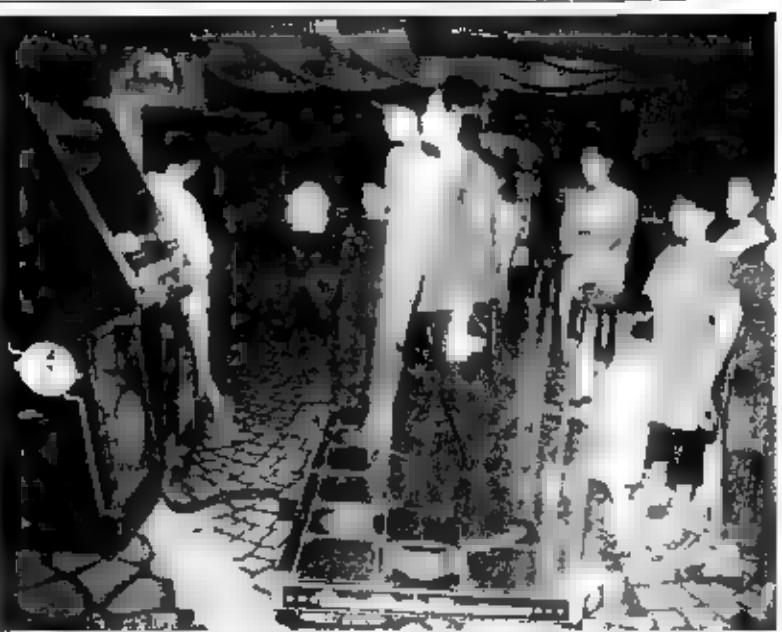




DREAM TOWN mascot favorite "Timmy" delights kids at the Mystical Merry-Go-Round.



MAINLINE EXPRESS—for that leisurely train ride around the park, a sure hit for kids and adults alike.



DREAM TOWN fulfills even the teenagers' taste for adventure.

## A town where everyone . . . (From page E4)

to "crash" into each other on their bumper cars, and no police will issue a ticket.

• Wind Rider—an upgrade of the Octopus, this ride has 14 arms and riders can exercise control over their cars, making this an interactive ride.

• Mystical Merry-Go-Round (for the kiddies)—this ride relives the grandeur of the old reliable carousel.

• Elmer's Dream (for the kiddies)—a fun revolving ride also for the whole family.

• Time Machine (for the kiddies)—six small, colorful clock-like rides that revolve around a bigger clock, with kaleidoscope lights and flashing vivid colors that make for a truly appealing ride.

• Mainline Express (for the kiddies)—a train ride that can take 24 children and their accompanying adults on a leisurely ride around Dream Town's Timmy's Playground.

There are other attractions inside Dream Town, such as Timmy's Place and Child's Play where children can slide, roll, crawl, or just sit down and play with colorful balls in a gigantic play area. With Child's Play's safety features, parents can leave the kids on their own.

For teenagers who seek out-of-this-world adventures, Dream Town has a second level area for nearly all video games. Among the popular video games offered include *Metroid*, *Slug 3*, *Tekken*

3, *Strikers III 1945*, *Tekken tag Tournament*, *Dance Revolution 3rd Remix*, *Time Crisis II* and *Daytona Racing*.

An ongoing treat at Dream Town is a tie up with Enchanted Kingdom in

offers a worry-free environment—there's no worrying if it's going to rain, or if it's going to be too hot. Dream Town is fully air-conditioned and our people are always ready to provide the needed assistance so you can concentrate on having fun," assures Buñi.

No wonder Dream Town is fast becoming a favorite venue of school field trips and corporate family day events. No event is too big for Dream Town, as it can accommodate up to 2,000 guests. The entire Dream Town can be reserved for big events or corporate affairs.

Recently, RRC's marketing team embarked on an active role to heighten client awareness. It has renewed business ties with various tour operators and has created a special package for school field trips for public and private schools. "We can also facilitate their trip here to other interesting venues like Nayong Pilipino, Metropolitan Museum or a visit to the Cebu Pacific hangar or Airlink training school for kids to see airplanes up close," says Buñi.

It seems the marketing effort has paid off. Right now, Dream Town is overwhelmed with reservations from different groups and companies who wish to hold their events at Robinsons' premier recreational destination. For more inquiries, please call 636-2911 or 633-7641 loc. 192 or 193.

Laguna that runs until Aug. 12. For every P250 purchase of one Dream Day ticket at Dream Town, you will be entitled to one complimentary Enchanted Kingdom Supersaver 10 ticket. To complement the tie-up, Enchanted Kingdom mascot Wizard and Princess Victoria will greet Dream Town guests every Sunday.

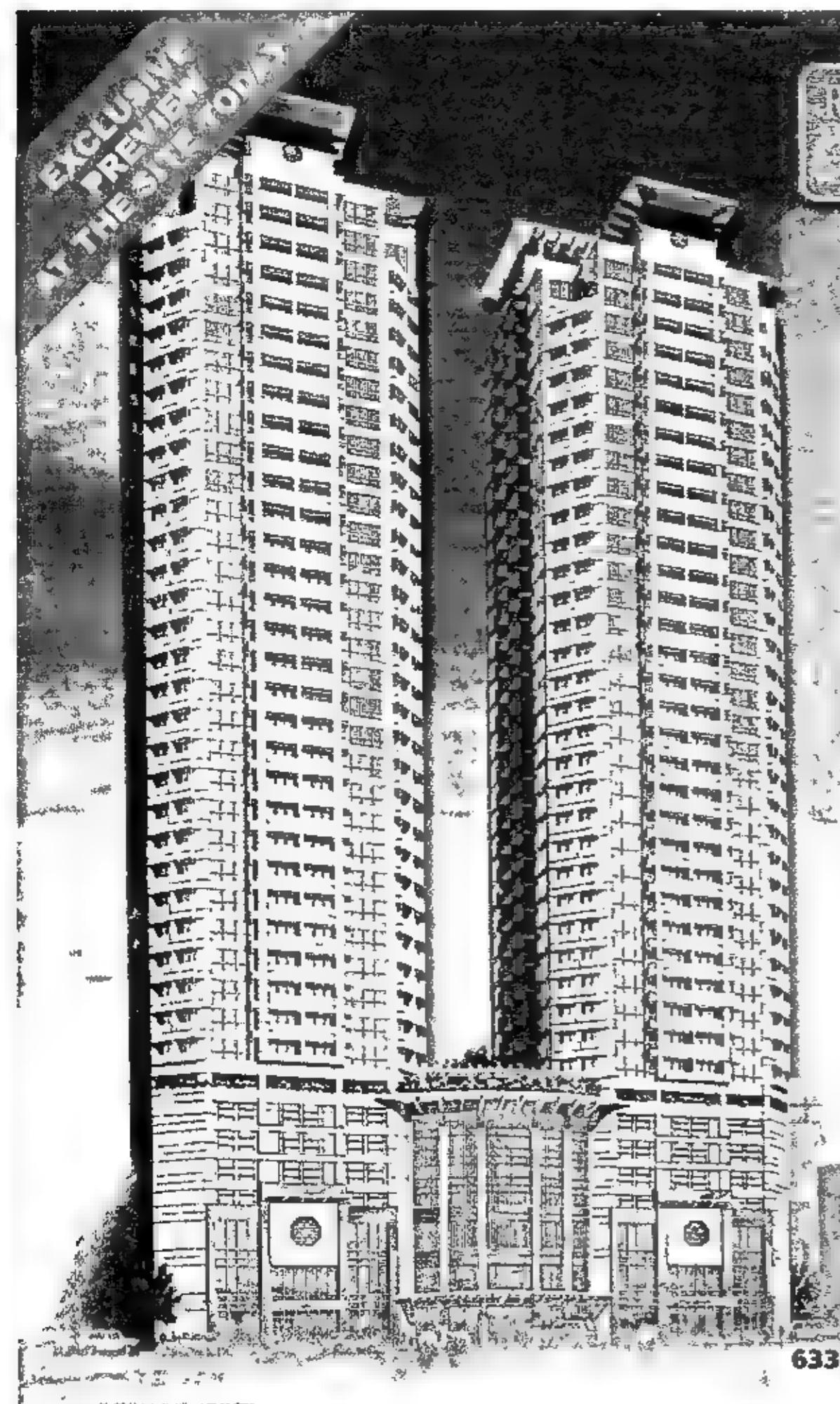
### Favorite party venue

Like the other two recreational parks of RRC, Dream Town accepts reservations for birthday parties, school field trips and corporate events. "Dream Town

*Congratulations to:*

## Robinsons Dream Town

From:



### ROBINSONS PLACE RESIDENCES Padre Faura

Thirty-eight floors of the most strategic and well-appointed addresses in downtown Manila, the soaring Robinsons Place Residences in Padre Faura displays the city at its finest, with its stunning view of the world famous Manila Bay on one side and the breathtaking view of the city's skyline on the other.

Behold the interior of Robinsons Place Residences with its studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom model units. Consider which one you will choose as you view these masterful creations first hand.

And with its direct connection to the sprawling Robinsons Place Manila, you are treated to the unparalleled convenience of remaining under one roof even as you enjoy the countless retail, dining and recreational options offered by the successful Mall.

Come and visit our display, and see why Robinsons Place Residences is the most gratifying way to call Manila "home sweet home."

Owner/Developer:



**ROBINSONS LAND  
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27th Floor, Galleria Corporate Center

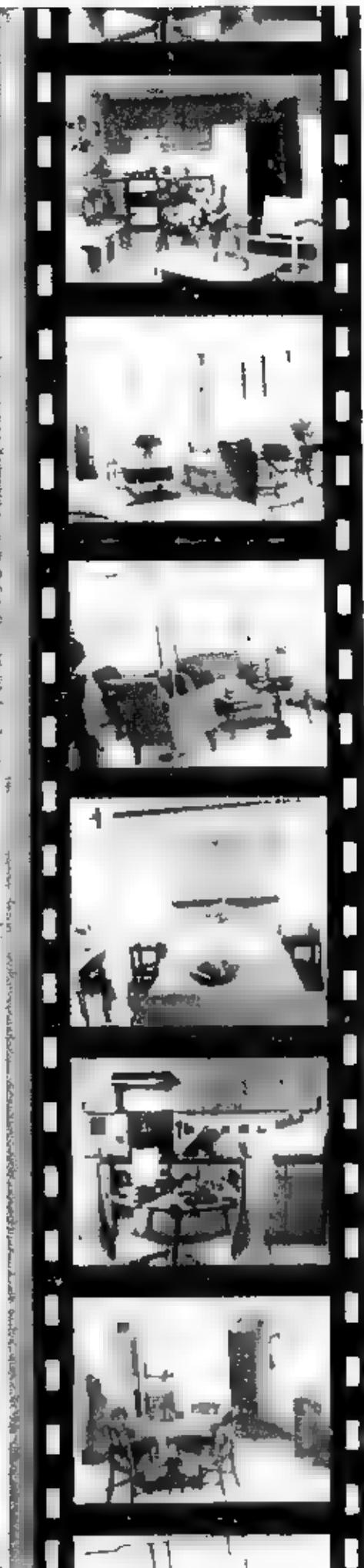
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## TRAVEL

ROSARIO A. GARCILANO, PHOTOS

## So very Subic

In 'Little America,' outdoor and indoor activities combine to make a vacation truly memorable

TEXT AND PHOTOS  
BY ELIZABETH LOLARGA

**D**ESPITE the thorough washing of its face by rain spawned by a killer storm, Subic was lover the second time around.

The first time I was there it was a sunny first of May and Erup's hordes were storming Manila "burned," my sisters Suzy and Pucky, the kids Kumi, Ida and Marga, my Mom, my brother-in-law Rod and I piled into a new van that needed breaking in and headed for the Subic Bay Freeport (SBF).

What I recall of that Labor Day spent at the former home of the US Navy's 7th Fleet, the largest naval base in the Pacific, is largely gustatory in nature. We stopped way past noon at the Golden Dragon Restaurant on Canal Road and feasted on chicken-w-th-asparagus soup, Oktiam fried chicken, braised beef brisket with brown sauce, sautéed shrimp with green peas and cashew nuts, fried squid balls, *bihon gusado* with mixed meat, plant rice, and almond jelly for dessert—courtesy of Rod.

Groaning from the repast, we burned calories by shopping for groceries, chocolates and RTW at the Royal Subic Duty Free Mall.

We couldn't get past the adamant security guard at the *farang* exclusive, membership-only Subic Bay Yacht Club for even just a look-see. But I was able to take a shot of my siblings, daughters and niece by the marina with the anchored yachts and sailboats in the background.

It was nearly dusk when we got to the All Hands Beach along San Bernardino Road. The beach was filled with holiday makers like us. Except for Mom and Rod, we adults waded in while Ida did underwater somersaults. A black crow flew over our heads, disappearing into the sunset.

Earlier, my house partner in Baguio called on the cell phone to say "How can you think of having a good time while people are noting in the streets?" Good question, but my sisters and I had planned on taking a break long before the so-called "Edsa Tres" broke out.

My second trip to Subic began on a Thursday, when typhoon "Feria" was exiting the country but still pummeling it with wind and rain. Cherry Laxamana, marketing assistant of Eastgate Village Resort in SBF, met Suzy—my younger sister, a schoolteacher—and me at the main office in Mandaluyong City.

## Music and monkeys

Aboard a Mercedes-Benz van driven carefully over the North Expressway's asphalt slick by Dodong Samonte, we headed for Zambales. Cherry and I immediately hit common ground with our love for music. (I had requested Dodong to tune the radio band to dZEE. When the reception got bad, he moved the band leftward to a jazz station.) A UP Concert Chorus is drama and now a mezzo soprano of the Al most Six a capella jazz quintet, my hostess blew into her last and emitted horn-like sounds—her part in their group's rendition of "My One and Only Love."

We knew we were near "Little America" when the van moved along the zigzag road smoothly. If it weren't for the rain, we could've reached SBF under three hours.

At Meat Plus Café on Sampson Road we stopped for lunch. Cherry highly recommended and had the hamburger; semi-vegetarian Suzy went for the potato salad and split my order of Caesar's salad, scraping off the bacon bits, I, the unrepeatable carnivore, chose tenderloin steak medium rare, with mixed veggies. The café takes pride in its main product—"US beef corn-fed to tenderness."

I found a smoking partner in Cherry who, while dragging on her Marlboro light, told me about the famous monkey that had made the roads along the rain forest its haul. All of two feet and named Bardagul (Bardy for short), this macho simian has been known to enter parked vans and pick bananas and other eats from picnic baskets. The other monkeys are afraid of him. When he swaggers in, the rest scamper away and do not dare touch his loot.

Cherry is not so sure if it was the same Bardy who intimidated a forest ranger. The story goes that after stealing a packed lunch from a backpack, Bardy walked away with the man in pursuit. But the monkey suddenly turned his head and presented a nasty, fighting look that froze the ranger on his tracks.

The rule in the SBF area: If you run



THE MIRACLE of this beach (top) is that it is manmade. But no killer whale is jumping at Ocean Adventure (above).

around Unit 472-D on Mindanao Loop, the model unit where prospective clients are brought and where sales are closed. Prints of blood-spotted and great crimson carnations, double rose campan, common garden pink, great tuberose, majestic crown imperial, chrysanthemum anemone and freycinetia look back at visitors from gilded-edges frames in the living, dining and bedrooms.

The Americans built this and the other units. But by the time construction was done, the renewal of the treaty governing the US bases in the country had been rejected. "Wow!" Dada exclaimed. "Pinoys are now enjoying them."

Every unit comes complete with all the imaginable appliances and amenities (including linen) that make bourgeois living such a delight, with a Laz-Y Boy armchair thrown in, to speak nothing of kitchen stuff down to chopping board and knife sharpener.

Other features are 24-hour security, smoke detectors in the hallways, electric-razor outlets in the toilets, hot and cold potable water, dual voltage outlets, centralized air conditioning and a covered carport. SBF has its own power supply from Subic Power Corp. so when the Luzon grid trips, this part of Zambales is still lit.

There are 52 units, but only 10 are operational, Dada said. Thus vacation ownership she is pushing needs 50 members per unit. In a year there are 52 weeks. Each member is allotted only one week at Eastgate. The number of days can be split to four days in the summer and three during the Christmas season or the other way around. The remaining two weeks of the 52 are spent on the annual maintenance of the resort.

She added that the number of members was approaching 100 already. Membership is open to both Filipinos and expatriates.

Eastgate (for inquiries, call 726-2561 in Manila or 047-252-5813 in Subic) is a member of Interval International, a service-based network for resort exchanges. This means that the vacation owner can spend a week in Subic or exchange the time in any of 2,004 member-resorts in 83 countries.

So what's your pleasure this year? Riding a ferry down the Amazon River? Skiing in Aspen? Snorkeling in Hawaii? These are just some possibilities for the one who "owns" his/her vacation. (The only other Philippine resort affiliated with Interval International is Fairways & Bluewater Resort Golf and Country Club in Boracay.)

Lingwi mentioned that SBF is also home to 2,000 varieties of trees, including the famous Dao, one of the oldest trees in the country, rising to a height of 40 meters and with a diameter of 10 meters. You can go bird- or bat-watching too.

The indoor activities include bingo,

glow-in-the-dark lighting, shopping at various stores, restaurant and bar hopping—the list is endless. Despite SBF being touted about as a family destination, you can't take the kids everywhere. There are cas nos, and where there is gambling, can the "guest relations officers" be far behind?

## SBF's edge

After the tourism nightmares (e.g., the Abu Sayyaf kidnappings) in some parts of Mindanao and Palawan, SBF is now considered the safest spot in the Philippines and also the only place in the country where traffic rules and cleanliness are strictly observed, according to Eastgate general manager Nazario "Naz" Racoma.

Another advantage is the combination of outdoor and indoor activities. "In the morning you can go horseback riding in the mountains, and in the evening you can watch the latest movie," he said. "People of all ages have something to do here."

Dada listed the outdoor activities: jet skiing, kayaking, sailing, swimming, biking at Bicentennial Park, scuba diving (20 historical shipwrecks in the Bay), fishing on the waterfront along almost the entire stretch of Argonaut Highway, hopping by ferry to Grande and Chuquita Islands, whale-watching at Ocean Adventure, ecology and jungle tours, horseback riding, tennis, golfing at Subic Bay Golf and Country Club, watching a concert or playing baseball or football at Remy Field, go-karting, basketball and shooting at the firing range.

In the evening I gave up trying to call Baguio,

where my mother was babysitting my children.

The land lines there were down, and the cell phone

proved useless. Rather

than worry myself sick, I joined Cherry and Dodong at Dewey's bar,

disco and videoke on Dewey Avenue.

It was black-lighted inside, except for a

spinning strobe light over the dance

floor. My frosted glass of gin tonic

gave off a luminous glow, the ice cubes

looking like quartz crystals.

Esconced on a dark leather couch,

the three of us picked the songs we

wanted to sing and chased the storm

away with each heartfelt rendition of

such immortals as "Moon River" and

"Girl From Ipanema."

We were just about the

only customers except for a portly man at the

bar and a couple necking

two tables behind us. The

GROs formed an appreciative audience of Cher

ry's singing.

We staggered out at the

Cinderella hour, the SBF still well lit but

desolate looking. Back in the

comfort of the bedroom I

Suzy snuggled peacefully

under a sheet and a comforter.

Thoughts of my isolated family in Baguio came in waves. I managed a fitful sleep, but was up at 5:30 a.m.

## Morning girl

I started pacing the apartment. Then I got into my shorts, T-shirt and walking sandals and decided to walk some more outdoors.

The rain had washed the asphalt

road clean, and the forest behind the

mostly uninhabited units was refreshingly green and emitting sounds from

an assortment of unseen insects. Tree

branches were strewn on the road be-

side Subic Homes, and a middle-aged

man dressed like I was greeted me with a hearty "Good morning!" as I strode briskly on the opposite lane.

Perhaps because it was so quiet and

people were few and far between, crows

crossed the street, hopping delicately

instead of flapping their wings.

After working up a sweat I returned to the unit and switched on the ESPN channel in time to catch the Great American Figure Skating Challenge. Ice dancer Angela Nekodinov did the death spiral and showed off double axles. Sarah Hughes, merely 15, paid tribute to choreographer Bob Fosse, dancing to "Bye, Bye, Blackbird" in a black, slinky, shiny unitard with matching gloves. But the best act, one that took my breath away, was Matt Savoie's relaxed gliding and spinning to Frank Sinatra's "Ebb Tide." He was simply garbed in a white, button-down shirt with rolled-up sleeves and black slacks, and his final gesture was bending gracefully to draw a circle on the ice. My morning was made!

I switched to ABS-CBN and caught the survey results on the question "Ano ang masarap gawin kapag umulan (What is the most enjoyable activity when it's raining?)" The majority of the callers (1,405, or 86 percent) answered: "Matulog at kumam (Sleep and eat)." Sure. But there was work ahead.

## Seeing the sights

Dad took Suzy and me on a tour of the rest of SBF.

We passed the Subic International Airport, where flights from Hong Kong, Taipei, China, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore land; the Federal Express hub in the Asia-Pacific region, All Hands, Dungaree Beach (formerly for low-ranking US officers) and Officers Beach (self-explanatory), where it is shady even in summer because of the many coconut and alisay trees and the docked mystery ship Orientalis, which was abandoned by the Cambodian passengers and crew on Subic Bay, no sign or message explaining why ("There might be contraband," Dad surmised).

We also saw stretches of asphalt fenced off for drag racing, street sweepers clearing debris, including sand and stones tossed by the white-capped waves, the rain forest, which the Americans protected to further shield their base, the controversy-marred Ocean Adventure. M. race Benc (said to be ex-Pres. Fidel Ramos' favorite jump-off point for diving before it was turned into a beach), and Tarla Rose, where the tall trees serve as homes of fruit and flat-headed bats.

Soon it was time to repair to the fine-dining area of the Triboa Bay Country Club on Lower Cubi where club services officer Luis "Louie" Liarena hosted lunch prepared by chef Antonio Florendo. (I had the French onion soup, mukfish belly a la ajillo and



COZY and comfy is this bedroom in Eastgate's model unit.

mango crème brûlée, Cherry, the same soup and seafood, Suzy, a salmon sandwich and a fresh fruit platter.)

Ninety percent of the club's 100 members are Filipinos, and the rest are Japanese, Americans, Chinese and British. Louie told me Confidentiality is part of the membership package, so I skimmed through the list of birthday celebrators for the month of July and noted a virtual Who's Who of the country's rich and powerful.

They're opening up the club to more members on a *pay-as-you-go* basis (as high as \$500, because, as Naz said later, they want to "share a piece of Fidel's history with other Filipinos." The former membership fee of P875,000 (good for 50 years) will be pared further.

"We'll stop selling shares," Louie added later. "We'd like to keep the club's services as personal as possible. The owner knows if a member wants his water ice cold or lukewarm, or his sandal.

He staggered out at the

Cinderella hour, the SBF still well lit but

desolate looking. Back in the

comfort of the bedroom I

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man dressed like I was greeted me with a hearty "Good morning!" as I strode briskly on the opposite lane.

Perhaps because it was so quiet and

people were few and far between, crows

crossed the street, hopping delicately



THE RAIN forest is a benign presence in the vacation hideaway.

Below, waves foam along San Bernardino Road.

## All is set for Shahani NCCA 'homecoming'

(From page E1)

government?

### Beautiful fiction

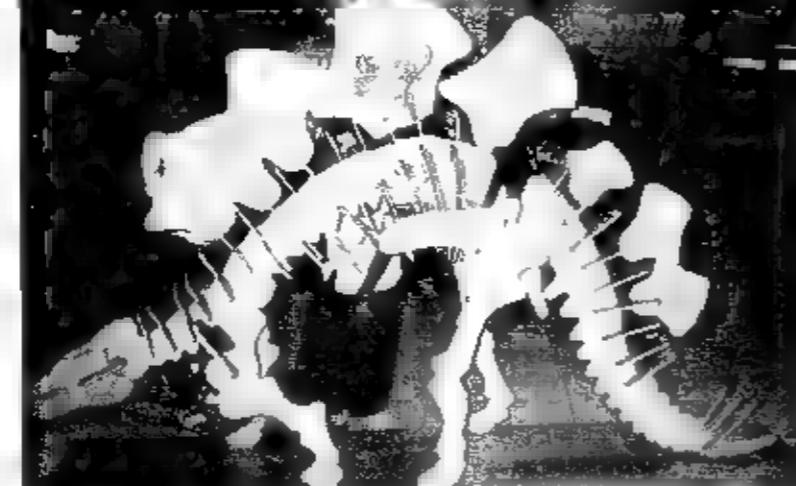
A FUNNY footnote to the CCP transition is a marginal note by Endriga on the copy of the presidential appointment letter that was sent by facsimile transmission to the old CCP board. Endriga wrote: "The Board (the legitimate Board) met July 13 and conducted an election that resulted in the same list as those contained in the appointment letter. The election was in accordance with the (CCP) charter."

Obviously, Endriga was trying to correct the impression that they had recovered their old positions not by virtue of the CCP charter, but by presidential fiat. Of course, their election came a day after the presidential appointment. The issue is no chicken-and-egg conundrum.

The developments at the CCP and NCCA should at least drive home the point that top appointments to the two agencies are a presidential prerogative—no matter how much artists and cultural workers invoke independence. If board positions in government banks and financing institutions that have their own charters are appointed by the President and if even the chairs and commissioners of constitutional commissions are appointed by the President, how can cultural agencies feel they are independent and should name their own top men by acclamation? No one's about to rouse them from their beautiful dream.

### NSO Helpline no help

THE NATIONAL Statistics Office



**DATE WITH DINOSAURS.** Top celebrities graced the premiere of "Jurassic Park III," the latest in Steven Spielberg's hit dinosaur-scare series, at the SM Megamall Cinema. In the audience was Purefoods basketball import David Wood who took the chance to spend quality time with his beautiful family—wife Angela and sons Caleb, Joseph and Moses. Museo Pambata also exhibited dinosaur skeletons. The "Jurassic Park III" promotion will tour SM malls until Aug. 16.



HelpLine Plus may be ripping people off, according to writer Eric Cabahug. They charge P175 a pop for every copy of an NSO-authenticated birth or marriage certificate printed in special NSO paper and they give you all sorts of guarantees that they never fulfill," he said. "First-

to get the document from the local civil registry and re-apply with the NSO later.

"The fact is NSO has a record of my birth certificate," Cabahug said. "I had been able to obtain a photocopy the two times I requested for it previously—the first time in 1997, the second time only last year. Now they tell me they don't have it and I would just have to re-apply, which would mean another cashout. I don't think so!"

Cabahug has already filed a formal complaint with NSO administrator Carmelita Erceta, in

provide updates on the status of his application and the arrogance of the hotline's personnel when he himself asked for an update.

### FREE SPEECH

THIS concerns the article which appeared in your section (PDI Lifestyle, 7/11/01), headlined "Look, Ma, an ortho in the mall."

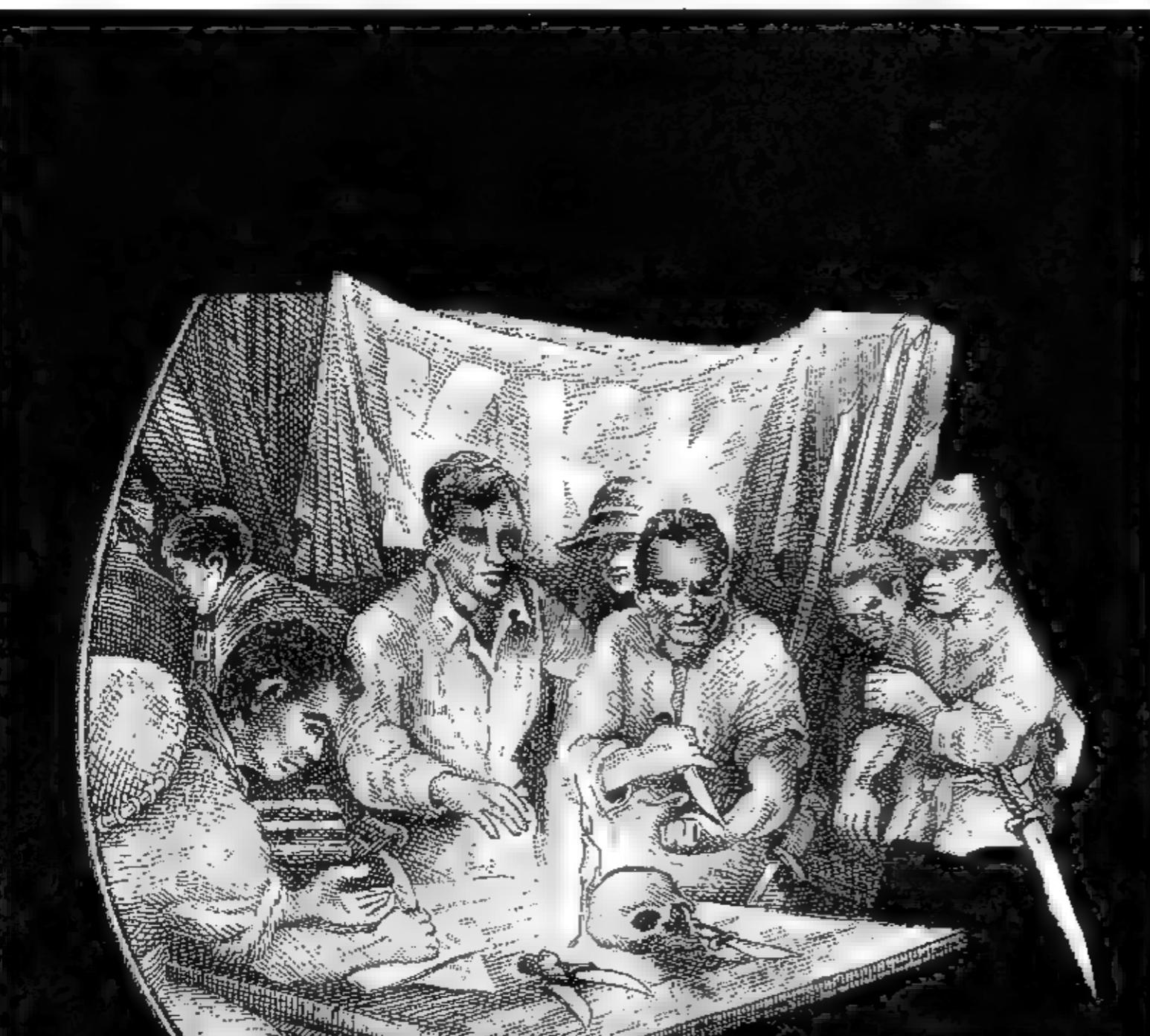
May I just state that I received training from the graduate program in orthodontics of the University of the Philippines? I bring this up to prevent any possible misinterpretation of the article regarding my training. I would like to reiterate that I am proud of my training at UP.

In the interest of the public, I also wish to clarify that orthodontic fees may vary widely, depending on the nature and severity of the case, the length of treatment and the type of appliances to be used for the case. It is therefore determined on a case-to-case basis.

Finally, misinterpretation may also be possible regarding orthodontic practitioners who are not members of the Association of Philippine Orthodontists. It is clear in the article that I was not speaking for the association, but if only to prevent any misinterpretation, allow me to state that non-members of APO may very well also be capable of doing good orthodontic work.

Thank you and more power to your newspaper

JOCELYN L. TAN, DDM



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FLUXION





JESUELE-FAYLONA

Fairy-tale romance  
leads to a pre-  
wedding photo  
in a castle  
in Italy

The bride  
wore a hand-  
embroidered  
and fully  
beaded  
Filipiniana  
*piña* gown by  
Ben Farrales  
no less; the  
groom,  
an Armani  
tuxedo



NEWLYWEDS Robert and Barbara, Angelica Jesuele

**O**N APRIL 21, investment banker Barbara Angelica Faylona married lawyer Robert Jesuele of Los Angeles, California. The wedding was held in Los Angeles at the St. Martin of Tours Church on Sunset Boulevard. The reception was held at an Italian villa in Sierra Madre, about 40 minutes away from the church, near Pasadena.

A FAIRY-TALE/p.F2



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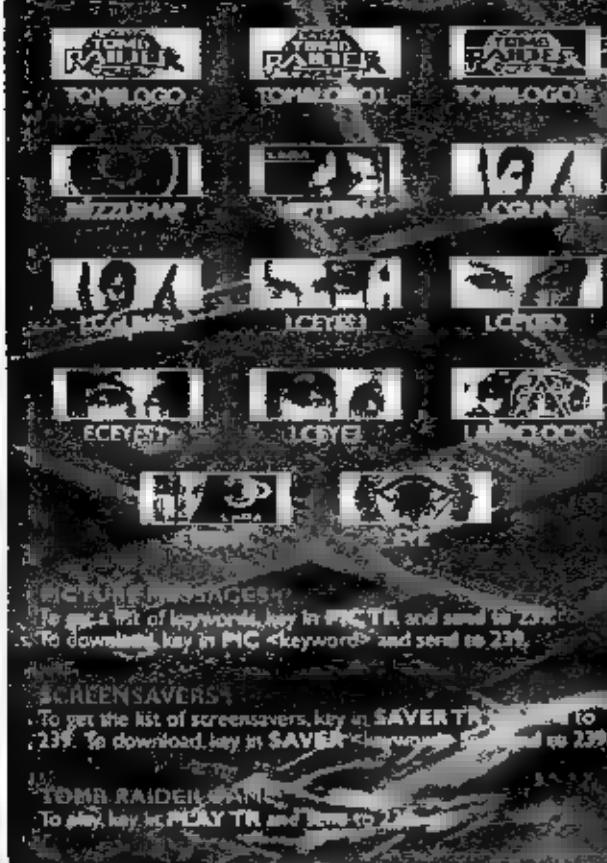
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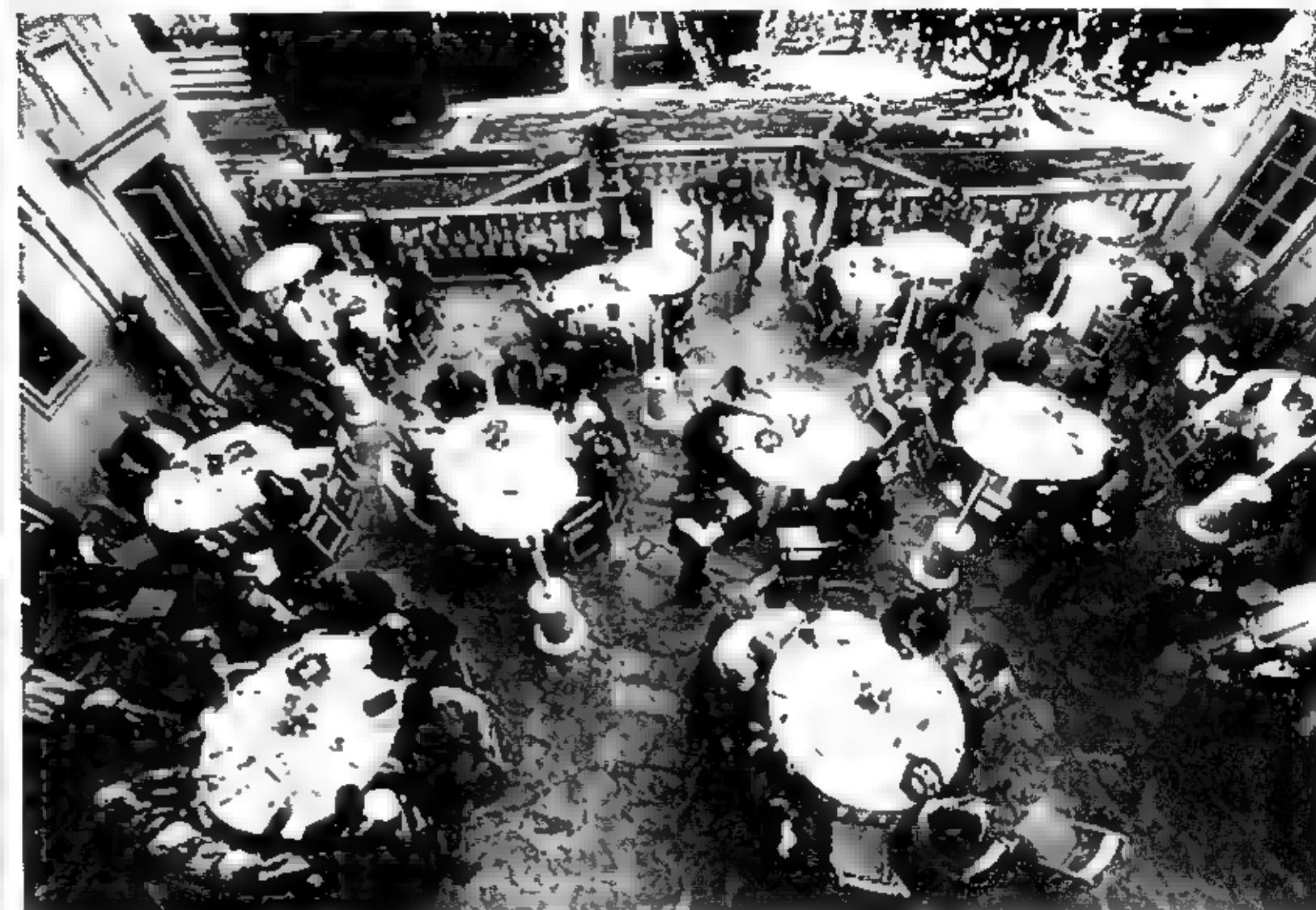
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THE RECEPTION held in the courtyard of an Italian villa

## Fairy-tale romance leads to a proposal in a castle in Italy

(From page F1)

Baba is the daughter of prominent Manila lawyer Donato T. Faylona and Ma. Cristina Filmore. Rob is the only son of Leonard and Rose Jesuile of Palos Verdes, California.

Baba, an investment banker formerly based in Munich, Germany, met Rob, an entertainment lawyer from Los Angeles, on a plane from Paris to Rome. Rob was on his way back from the Cannes Film Festival, where some of his biggest clients had participated. Their jet-setting fairy-tale romance culminated in a proposal of marriage atop an old castle in Tuscany, Italy, last year, where Rob, in his nervousness, dropped the engagement ring down the hill. Thankfully the ring lodged itself in the parapet of the tower, where it was hastily retrieved and placed properly on Baba's finger.

Baba wore an exquisite Filipiniana *pina* gown by couturier Ben Farrelles, hand-embroidered and fully beaded. Rob wore an elegant tuxedo by Armani. Baba's gown was made of four separate pieces—a sleeveless gown, an overblouse with full, flowing sleeves, a *panuelo* and a long, elaborate train, all of which were fully embroidered, fully *callado* and fully beaded. The bridesmaids' gowns also were by Farrelles.

It was a truly beautiful ceremony. There were neither wedding sponsors nor secondary sponsors like those in Manila. The fathers gave the readings and the mothers gave the offertory.



BABA and Rob cut their cake.



WITH THE BRIDE'S parents, Donato and Ma. Cristina Faylona, and sisters Donna, Camille and Rissa



WITH THE GROOM'S parents, Leonard and Rose Jesuile

The groomsmen, Rob's close friends Scott, Cerna and Jeff from high school, college and law school, and the bridesmaids, Baba's sisters Camille and Rissa, stood as witnesses at the wedding vows and during communion. The maid of honor, eldest sister Donna, and the best man Mark knelt beside the couple throughout the ceremony.

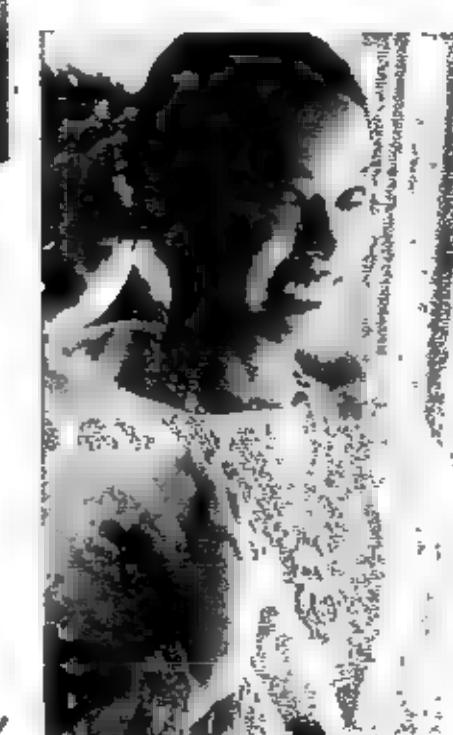
The reception was at Villa Alverno at the foot of the San Gabriel mountains in the city of Sierra Madre. The villa was transformed into a paradise filled with fresh flowers, greens and candles.

The evening was filled with love, laughter and warm friendship. Rob's relatives from the East Coast flew in especially for the occasion, as did Baba's relatives from Manila and Australia. The couple's friends from all over Europe and the United States also came to join in the celebration.

The bride and groom are currently based in New York City, where they are working on their first book.

For more information on the couple's book, visit [www.babafaylona.com](http://www.babafaylona.com).

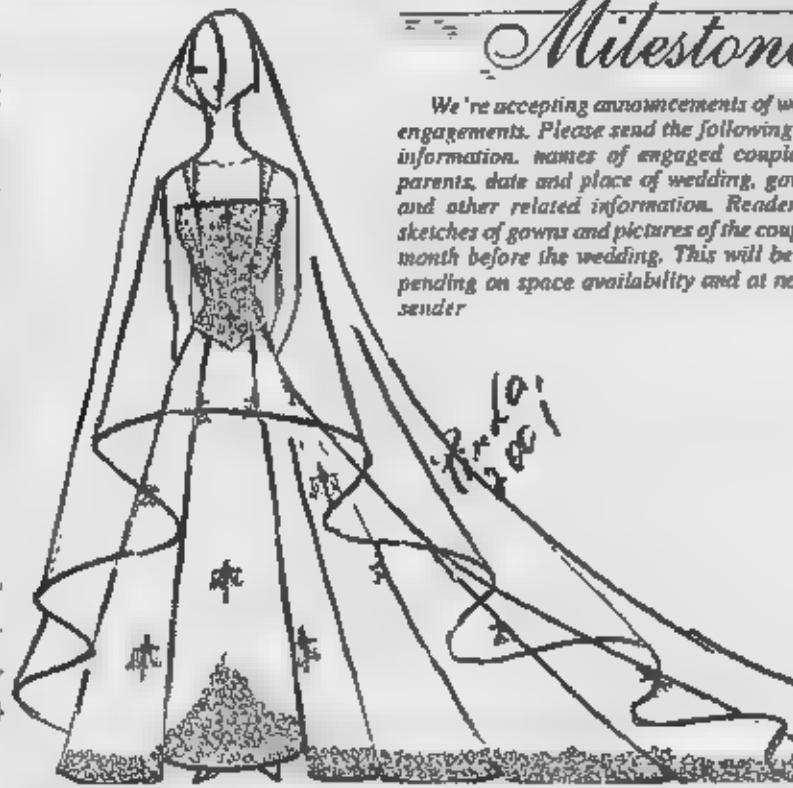
—By JESUILE JESUILE



DETAILS of the bride's exquisitely hand-embroidered Filipiniana gown by Ben Farrelles

## Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least a month before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

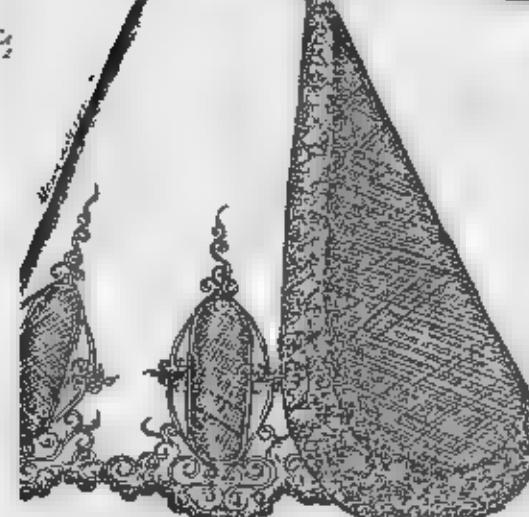
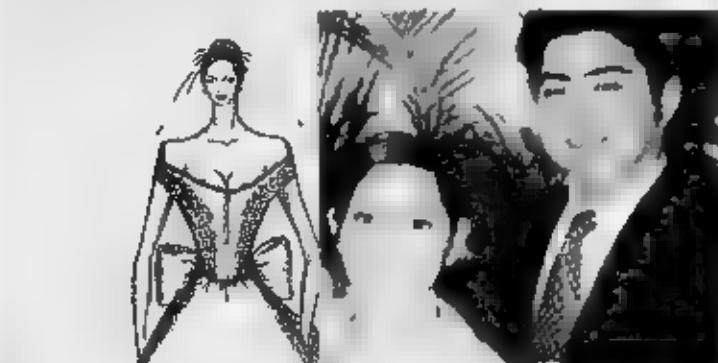


## LEUNG-UNG

Miriam Ung, daughter of Mr. and Ms. Paul Ung, and Merrill Leung, son of Mr. and Ms. James Leung, will tie the knot on Aug. 6 at the Westpoint Grey Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia.

Eric Pineda designed the bride's gown using Thai silk. Embroidered and traced with caviar beads, the bodice features a specially designed monogram bearing the couple's initials. It is embellished with floral-shaped Swarovski crystals. The gown has a detachable train and an 8-m long veil scattered with paillettes. The entourage's gowns are in rust orange shantung silk with beaded "firefly" appliqués.

Reception will follow at the Kian Seafood Restaurant, Richmond, BC.



## GARBES MEJIA

Darrell Theodore B. Garbes, son of Diomedes and Malou Garbes, and Sharon B. Mejia, daughter of Ernesto and Elizabeth Mejia, will exchange vows today at the Holy Cross Parish Chapel II, Clarkfield, Clarkfield, Pampanga.

The bride wears an off-shoulder, corset style in *pista* material embellished with Swarovski stones and Calido embroidery designed by Manny Dixon Ocampo.

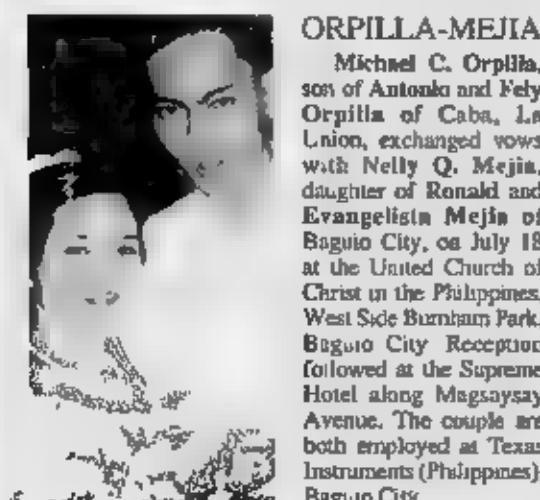


## TIU-QUI

Aileen Qui, daughter of Mr. and Ms Julian Qui, will walk down the aisle of the Basilica of San Sebastian to wed Cris Tiu, son of Mr. and Ms Cresente Tiu, on Aug. 5.

She will wear a gown in double ply ivory Thai silk created by Eric Pineda. It has a detachable twin train with a sunburst beadwork pattern. The bustier and skirt are sprinkled with caviar beads and Swarovski crystals. Floral rhinestone clips will hold her 10-meter veil of illusion tulle.

The entire entourage will wear gowns in plum iridescent silk taffeta. Reception will follow at the Rizal Ballroom of the Shangri-La Hotel, Makati.



## ORPILLA-MEJIA

Michael C. Orpilla, son of Antonia and Fely Orpilla of Caba, La Union, exchanged vows with Nelly Q. Mejia, daughter of Ronald and Evangelista Mejia of Baguio City, on July 18 at the United Church of Christ in the Philippines, West Side Burnham Park, Baguio City. Reception followed at the Supreme Hotel along Magaysay Avenue. The couple are both employed at Texas Instruments (Philippines), Baguio City.

How to get there: From EDSA northbound, turn right to Quezon Ave. Take the EDSA Road & turn right to Commonwealth Ave. Go straight ahead past Iglesia ni Kristo and Ever Goboco Mall. As you see St. Peter's Parish on the right side of the road, get ready to turn right to Belen Rd. marked by the new Samigpan Bayan Bldg. Follow Samigpan's direction signs (Aldea Verde is inside Serra Monte Villas) & take right to Belen Road Extension. Then turn left upon seeing North View Gate signage.

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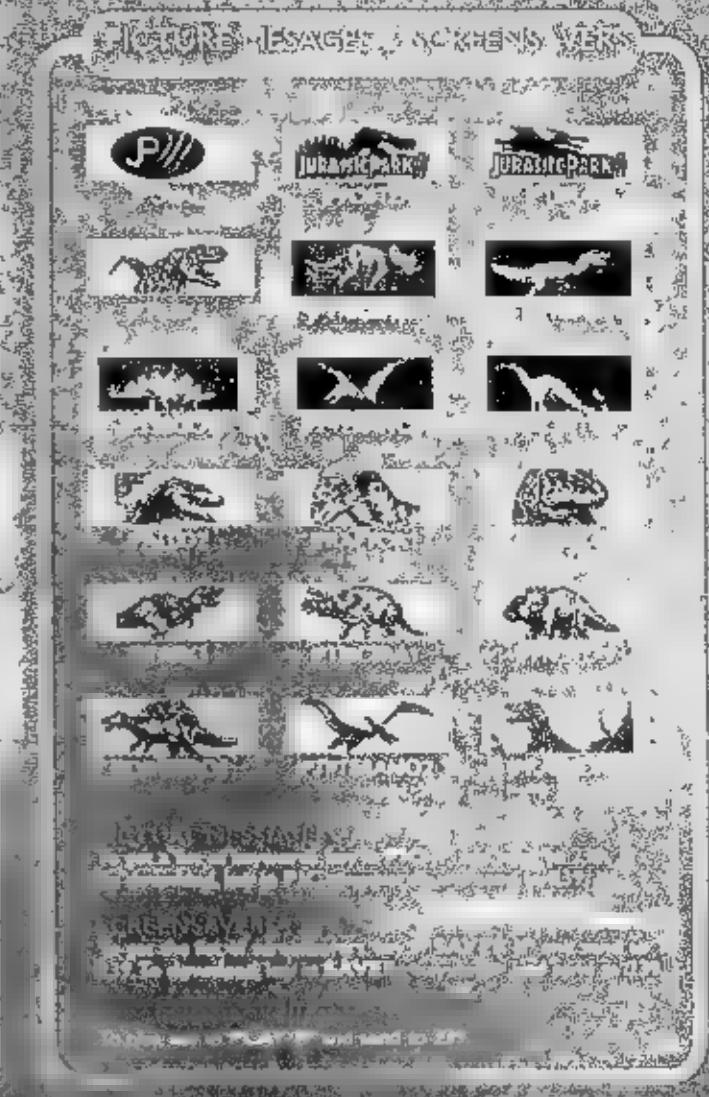
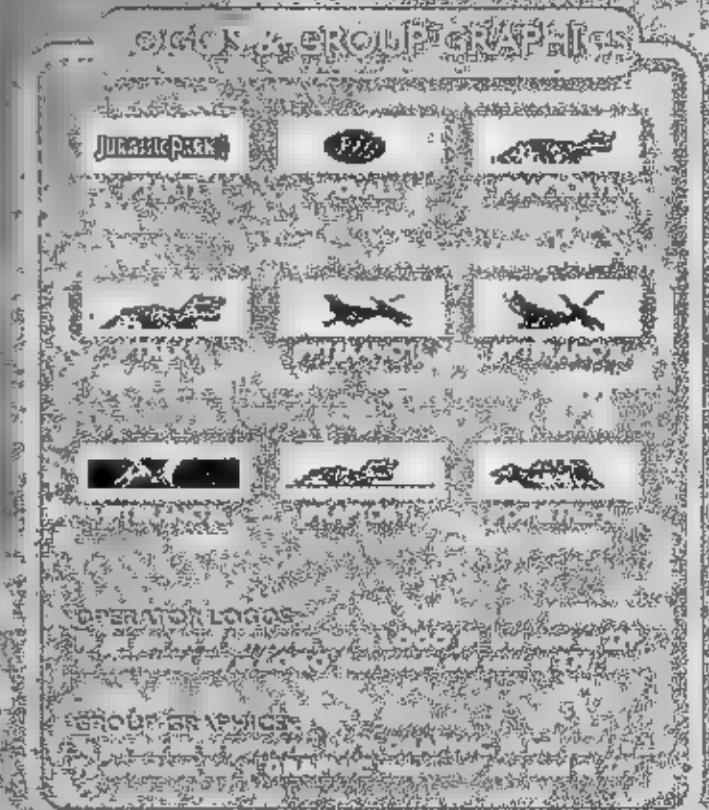


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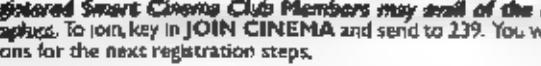
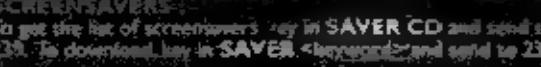
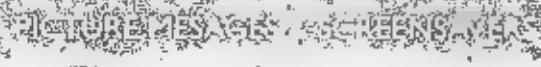
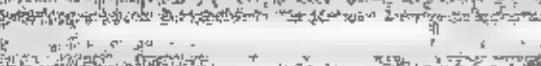
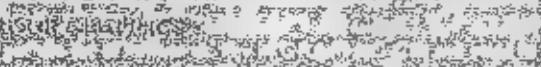
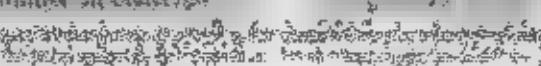
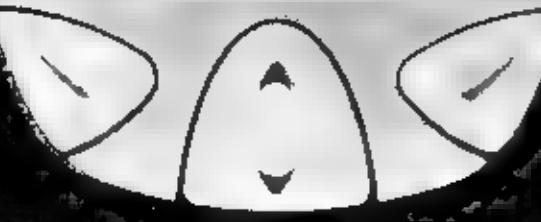
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# SundayLIFESTYLE

## Hot new BMW-C1, an increase in Glorietta's parking fee and how to beat the tough times

BY ANTON SAN DIEGO

**M**UST-HAVE motorcycle—BMW's C1. Now that local motorcycle riders have the same rights as car owners regarding the use of the highways, this may be something they would just need. Bavarian Motors probably was in a funky mood when it decided to design this—a car scooter or an urban personal commuter.

The manufacturer's intention was to combine a motorcycle with an automobile. It offers weather protection and safety comparable to a car. The C1 features a full-sized windscreen and wiper. The rear can double as a passenger seat or luggage rack. Optional equipment include ABS, radio and CD player, navigation system, cell-phone holder and anti-theft device. For more information, check out their website at [www.bmw.com](http://www.bmw.com).

Parking fee or fine. I was at the Glorietta mall last weekend to see a movie. Since I often visit the place, I was quite surprised with the increase in parking fees. Although it is only P5 (from P20 to P25) and less than the parking fee at a hotel, as a consumer I feel that it was bad timing. Aren't we suffering enough with all the increases in food and gas prices? I really do not know if it's a parking fee or parking fine. If you spend at least four hours in the mall (read: seeing a movie, having a snack and shopping), you will have to fork out P50, somehow a big addition to what you already spent at the mall. For some it may not be much. But who wants to pay more when it takes hours to find a parking space and you get stuck in traffic near the mall?

Our peso has been stretched to the point that a hundred-peso bill seems to be worth only P10. I asked someone who works at Glorietta the reason behind the increase and he said it was due to higher operational costs. I wondered: Is it because of the hiring of more guards or the new plants at the parking lot? It seems like everything is still the same. But despite all this, it's the consumer who suffers. Filipinos should be more vigilant about their rights as consumers.

Luna by Pia Regala-Hebron, Manila fashion experienced an adrenaline rush last July 26. Pia Regala-Hebron unveiled her gata collection to an SRO crowd at Luna at the Makati Shangri-La. Congratulations on a job well done!

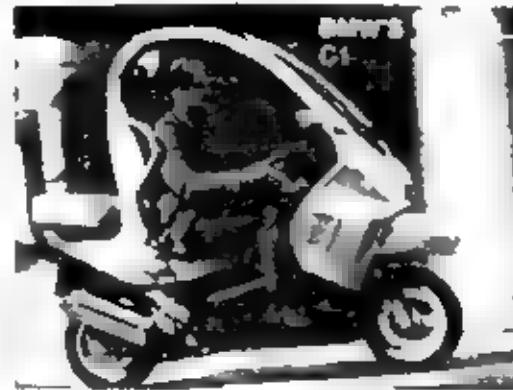
Why the military look is out. The military look in Manila has yet to reach fever pitch but it seems that's not ever going to happen. Last Monday, I read the Metro section of this paper and found out why this fad never took off. A Makati City police chief ordered "the arrest of all people wearing fatigues or camouflage attire to prevent bank robberies in the city." A violation of this law (read: Article 179 of the penal code) is punishable with 1-6 months' imprisonment.

Must-buy CDs. There are three CDs now out in the market that you must buy. They are "Cafe del Mar 8," "Fashion TV" (the same one on TV) and "Moulin Rouge." I particularly love the last one. The movie is spectacular and the songs are just great. Most of the songs are old standards like Elton John's "Your Song," Randy Crawford's "One Day I'll Fly Away" and the love medley that includes "On the Wings of Love" and "I Will Always Love You."

10 ways to save money during tough times. Everything is so expensive these days. This week, TNT gives you tips to weather the economic crunch. We are in for a rough ride and these may come in handy. Enjoy!

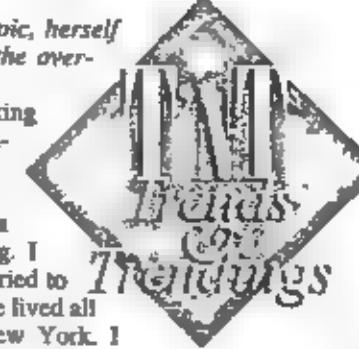
1. Whenever you go out, try to emulate the young ones by ordering only beer and sipping it slowly. 2. Go vintage (very chic abroad) and say that your 10-year-old blouse or shoes is vintage Haston or John Lobb. 3. Make paper boats and float them along the Pasig River, hoping that the President will read your requests, too. 4. Smoke local cigarettes, which are cheaper than blue seal; both are unhealthy anyway. 5. Chat via the Internet and fantasize that whoever you are chatting with is good-looking. It may not be true but it's much better than going on a date (which is more costly) that ends on a sour note. 6. Move back to your parents' home, eat their food, borrow their car and use their electricity. 7. Have dinner or hang out at your friend's home. 8. Stop going to Starbucks and Seattle's Best, switch to *barako* or instant coffee. 9. Use your regular phone lines or borrow your friend's cell phone. It's the season to be a leach! 10. Pray that this economic crunch will be over or else we will be doing the above-mentioned for a long time.

Diary of Constance Brooke San Lorenzo Pendleton: Divorce Filipino style. *Our intrepid*



*socialite talks about her favorite topic, herself and something close to her heart, the over-heated divorce bill.*

"I've been getting tons of mail asking questions about myself and my background. When I get the time I promise I will tell you a bit more about myself. But, for the moment, here's a brief summary: I am forty-something. I am a Filipino and I was happily married to an American for over 20 years. I have lived all over the world but primarily in New York. I know what you're thinking, but no, I did not get a HOT! p.G3



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FROM PIA Regala-Hebron's Luna 2001 collection, worn by Annette Coronel-Cruz

## Wedding unites 2 prominent Cebu families

**S**HERYL Osmeña and Carlo Borromeo, both in their early 20s, chose the intimacy of the chapel at the Archbishop's Palace for their wedding one Saturday afternoon. She is the daughter of Jose Mari and Crystal Osmeña; he is the son of Peter and Joy Borromeo. The marriage united two of Cebu's oldest and most prominent families.

Msgr. Jose Borres celebrated the nuptial mass. Principal sponsors were Augusto Saguis, Jose Ma. Miranda, Vicente Ventulan, Mesdames Flora Borromeo, Reine Casas and Esperanza Osmeña. Sheila Osmeña was her sister's maid of honor while Carlo had his brother Peter Borromeo Jr. as best man.

Bridesmaids were Ma. Cristina Osmeña, Kathleen Borromeo and Marie Gabrielle Borromeo while groomsmen were Armand Paredes, Anthony Quijano and Jumell Codilla. Daniel Borromeo was ring and com beater and Micah del Mar, Erika Gonzalez and Angelique Gonzalez were flower girls.

Attending Carlo and Sheila during the rites were Arnulfo Nadeo IV and Michelle Mae Alfonso as candle sponsors, Luke Carriga and Monica Alix as veil sponsors, and Vanece Padutan and Maricel Osmeña as cord sponsors. Reception was at the Borromeo family's Montebello Villa Resort.

First to arrive was Cebu City's first lady, Margot Vargas Osmeña, with her sister-in-law, Minnie Osmeña, and their cousin Carmen del Prado. Seated with them were Sheryl's grandparents, lawyer Ramon Osmeña and Presentacion Serafica Osmeña. At a

CEBU  
CEBU



Jaime  
Picornell

nearby table sat Carlo's grandparents, Justice Jesus Borromeo and Florinda Saguin Borromeo, with members of their family, among them Zelia Borromeo who was congratulated for the excellent buffet menu. She spent precious time preparing the whole thing, and probably cooking it, too.

Everyone was talking about the anecdote told by Monsignor Borres. He recalled his first mass as a newly ordained priest. His sponsors included Carlo's great-grandfather Justice Fortunato Borromeo, and Doña Esperanza Limjap Osmeña, wife of President Sergio Osmeña, and Sheryl's great-grandmother.

### New Chilean consul

A PARTY was held at the country club to celebrate the recent appointment of David Graham Ugarte as Chile's honorary consul in Cebu. The Chilean Ambassador to the Philippines Doña Carmen Lynam N. and the embassy's commercial attaché Frank Tessler came to Cebu for the occasion. The party was attended by David's pretty wife, June Alegre Ugarte, his proud mom, Evelyn Graham Ugarte, as well as elder brother Luis Ugarte (he is Mexico's honorary consul in Cebu) and his wife Janet.

This was the second visit of Ambassador Lynam to Cebu. Aside from David's installation, she had much else to do. She had dinner at David's, the restaurant the new consul owns, with media girls Maria Paloma Sandiego, business editor of the Freeman Daily, and Irene Sino Cruz of the Cebu Daily News. David's, which offers excellent nouvelle cuisine, will also be the site of the Chilean consulate in Cebu. On another occasion, Ambassador Lynam had lunch at the Beehive with Sabino Dapat, president of the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and other officers of the organization.

Lynam first visited Cebu a few weeks before David's installation. She came with her dear mother, Doña Nora de Narvaez, and they stayed at the Shangri-La. They spent a whole day picnicking at Manibago Bluewater, and later attended a dinner hosted by Joe and Chinggay Utzurum at the Casino Español de Cebu. The dinner was attended by scintillating writer Jo Gaboya Magsaysay and Cecilia Rodriguez who sat beside Señora Narvaez and chattered the night away in Spanish, both of them speaking nothing else. On another evening, Doña Carmen and Doña Nora had dinner with Annie and Luis Abotiz. He was the former hon-



CARLO and Sheryl Borromeo with their parents, Jose Mari and Crystal Osmeña (left) and Peter and Joy Borromeo

orary Chilean consul here

### Bougainvillea party

MOONLIGHT and bougainvillas can be enough reasons to throw a party. Well, an intimate little dinner such as the one Mendezona gave at the verandah of her home in Beverly Hills, in honor of dear friends Irma and Boboy Attilio and their son Niko who were visiting from Canada. Teresing's bougainvillas seem to be in perpetual bloom. Any time of the year you visit her home you find a profusion of white or pink or a combination in pots in or out of the house, in bushes all over the garden or as hedges to define the property. Imagine them with a full moon above—who needs dinner?

But one cannot refuse what Teresing prepares with the fastidiousness of a Cordon Bleu chef for they are all so good and so well presented. They are also accompanied by fine wines and sparkling conversation. Everyone else

present that evening agreed—Tessie Javier, Peri Villarta, Muri Ann Soliven and Harry Campbell.

All admired the table settings in blue linens, candles glowing on crystal vases, and the centerpieces of oranges and yellow and mauve orchids. No wonder Teresing is Cebu's most sought after consultant for weddings, balls, and other events. Coming up on Oct. 14 is the golden wedding anniversary of Rodriguez and Julie Gandionco for which she is designing a beautiful setting at the newly opened latest venture of Ayala—City Sports Club Cebu. It's like a royal palace.



IRMA Attilio and Teresing Mendezona



AMBASSADOR Carmen Lynam N. and her mother, Doña Nora de Narvaez (seated), with Jo Magsaysay, Joe and Chinggay Utzurum and Cecilia Rodriguez

## Lucky motorists win vacation packages

THE "SUMMERUSH" grand draw at the Hard Rock Café brought rewards to loyal Shell Velocity patrons, who won vacation packages and premium gift items.

During the promo, Shell Velocity gave 200 lucky motorists spotted by roving patrols of partner radio stations 88.3 Citilite, 89.1 Wave, 89.9 TM, 99.5 RT and 103.5 K-Lite vacation packages to hot destinations and free invites to the "SummeRush" party. Stickering activities were also held at Shell service stations.

Capping the "SummeRush" promo was a fun-filled and jam-packed party to celebrate Shell Velocity's success. TM's Miles, RT's Angel, K-Lite's Blade and Wave's Eric from partner radio stations hosted the grand party, which was broadcast live over 99.5 RT, and kept the crowd entertained. Top bands True Faith and South Border performed.

Shell Turbocharger players Rob Wainright, Juaquin Hawkins, Michael Hrabak and Shell Velocity brand manager Amon Chiong drew the winner of the round-trip ticket for two to Boracay. Pilipinas Shell retail general manager Cesar Romero drew the grand prize winner who will go to Bali, Indonesia.

Francisco Obina Jr. of Quezon won the Bali trip. E. Tan Shell service station owner Elizabeth Tan got a trip for two to Boracay while the station's service crew received a gift check worth P10,000.



ROB Wainright and Michael Hrabak with DJ Miles of TM



DJ Angel of RT and DJ Blade of K-Lite with lucky motorists



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# Hot new BMW-C1, an increase in Glorietta's parking fee . . .

(From page G1)

divorce—I am a widower. I was educated in America and England. I have two children. I moved back to Manila about two years ago (but you know all that already).

"I have long had an intense love affair with Brannvin, a Swedish vodka. I like sex just as much (probably more) as the average 19-year-old. I simply adore shopping, particularly for clothes and jewelry. Honesty, grace and elegance are very important words and concepts to me. I am pro-choice. I favor divorce. I am an avid defender of consumer rights, particularly my own. I hate pretension. I hate stupid people. I like money more than anyone but as my mama taught me, it is also important how one makes the money. I loathe people who take what is not theirs or who do not deliver what they are supposed to deliver.

"To short, I am like so many people—a woman simply trying to do her best to do the right thing while living her life to the fullest. Some people (particularly of the Marc variety) have called me a deeply flawed, semi-alcoholic, sex crazed, arrogant, over-opinionated b\*tch. I may be all that but I tend to think and call it like I see it and my heart's in the right place, which is more than I can say for them. So there.

"I am greatly disturbed by all the recent pronouncements regarding divorce. The divorce bill does not seek to butt its nose into Church business. It concerns itself only with the civil rites of marriage—which, as we all know, were manmade. If one happens to be a Catholic, then one must also seek an annulment from the Church—and that certainly is God's purview—over which this divorce bill has absolutely no jurisdiction. I can only speak for myself but I

think it is wrong to impose one's beliefs on anyone else.

"Besides, what happened to the separation of Church and State? One of my velvet mafios (read: gay chic friend), who also happens to be one of our country's top lawyers, tells me that this principle is enshrined in our Constitution—Article 2 Section 6. And, well, I did my catechism, too, and didn't Jesus say something like "render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and render

unto God what is God's"? Hmmm... The divorce bill sounds like a very Caesar thing to me.

"The Church should stop trying to influence what is essentially a civil decision. After all, this is the same Church that gave us the inquisition, condemned Galileo (and only recently "reversed" their position) and, for all Cardinal Sin's talk of "Rizalian values," the same Church that had a little bit to do with his execution. So while they may have the monopoly on moral values (debatable at best) they certainly have serious problems with other issues.

"In the end, I don't think anyone gets into a marriage with the idea of using divorce as an escape hatch. I believe people try their darnest to make their marriages work. I married an American and lived in a land where divorce was permitted but I stuck to my marriage. I didn't run to

divorce court for every little fight we had. It was my choice to stay and I worked like hell to make my marriage work. My point is that, for our unfortunate friends whose marriages don't work out, why don't we give them another chance at happiness? Why condemn them to a life of mystery? Let them make the choice to stay or to go. Don't impose it. Besides, in the end, what is the real difference between legal separation and divorce? You can't be a little bit pregnant, you know.

"Most important, divorce gives a woman in a male-dominated society like ours the right to walk out if she can't take it anymore and it ensures she is not left bereft of funds—unlike if her husband just throws her out. So this is a woman's issue at the heart of it."

E-mail the author at [asd\\_world@hotmail.com](mailto:asd_world@hotmail.com)



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Tina, 36, spends time with son, Anton, 5, in the kitchen of their Citta Italia Romagna home.

Making pizza at home with Anton has never been this much fun.



For more details on other Citta Italia homes, feel free to call us at **823-1614, 824-7264, 873-6799** or visit our website [www.crownasia.com.ph](http://www.crownasia.com.ph)  
Via Aranbari Take the Abadang Zapote Road towards Cubao. Watch out for SM Southmall then turn left at Macapagal. Villages to Marcos Avenue end of the street, turn right. You will pass Robinsons Confectionery, Academy, Watermark, Li-Sale, Jollibee, Ortigas and Robinson's Watch out for Robinson's Grocery on your right. Turn right at Robinson's Watch out for the Citta Italia billboard, then turn right at Jollibee Avenue. Follow the road to Mabolo (Mandaue) Ave and Day Market, then turn left. After 200 meters, turn right to Mabolo Road and watch out for the Citta Italia billboard. Turn right at Jollibee Avenue. Follow the cornered road and you see Citta Italia on your left.

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SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2001

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- graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering
- at least 3 years work experience in building administration

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- graduate of any 4-year business course
- at least 1 year experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales in the same capacity

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- female, not over 30 years old
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- at least 1 to 2 years related work experience in customer service or customer relations

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- graduate of any 4-year business course
- at least 1 year experience in counter or credit card transactions in the same capacity

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- male, not over 32 years old
- graduate of Commerce or Industrial Engineering
- with extensive experience in warehousing and other related functions

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- male, 5'8 1/2" in height, 22-32 years old
- female, 5'2" in height, 21-32 years old
- graduate of BS Criminology or at least 2nd year college
- flexible to different work assignments
- with pleasant disposition and developed motivational skills

Candidates for the position should have the following competencies:

- excellent communication skills both verbal and written form
- can relate well to all levels of the organization
- proficient in computer software applications
- team-player, goal-oriented and able to work well under pressure

### TRAINING OFFICERS (SAG-TO)

- not over 32 years old
- graduate of education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4 year business course
- at least 2 years related work experience in human resource development
- knowledgeable in the conduct of training needs analysis, design, implementation and evaluation of training programs and activities related to behavior and skills development of employees

### SUPPORT / ADMIN. GROUP

#### PROGRAMMERS / COMPUTER OPERATORS / TECHNICIANS (SAG-PCOT)

- not over 28 years old
- graduate of Computer Science / Engineering
- preferably experienced in the repair, trouble shooting and maintenance of cash registers

#### ENGINEERING OFFICERS (SAG-EO)

- male, 25 - 30 years old
- graduate of Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, preferably licensed
- at least 1 year supervisory experience in building operations/property management

#### SECRETARY (SAG-SEC)

- not over 28 years old
- graduate of Economics, Management or any 4-year business course
- at least 1 year related work experience

#### NURSES (SAG-N)

- female, not over 32 years old
- graduate of BS Nursing, preferably licensed
- at least 2 years in a medical establishment or as a Company Nurse

#### TREASURY SUPERVISORS (SAG-TS)

- female, not over 32 years old
- graduate of Accounting or Banking & Finance
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- familiar with banking operations and Central Bank procedures

*Interested parties may send their comprehensive resume with recent photo to:*

#### THE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

Mezzanine (Right) Unit 4  
Central Plaza 1 Bldg.  
JP Laurel Avenue, Davao City

Position Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. Fax: (082) 222-8782

*Metro Manila based applicants may apply personally from Mon. to Fri., 9am - 5pm or send their comprehensive resume with recent photo to:*

#### THE RECRUITMENT DIVISION MANAGER

490 Carlos Palanca St., Quiapo Manila

Position Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: RECRUIT@shoemart.com.ph

## International Exchange Bank

### FOR NEW BRANCHES (METRO MANILA, CEBU AND DAVAO)

#### BRANCH SALES OFFICER

- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 2 year experience in a Sales/Marketing function in a bank or any financial institution
- Will be responsible in Account Solicitation for the branch and assisting in the servicing and maintenance of existing account holders
- Good communication skills

#### BRANCH SALES SPECIALIST

- Graduate of any 4 year course with strong inclination and high aptitude for sales
- This is an entry position eventually leading to Sales Officer. Qualified candidates will undergo classroom and on the job training involving field sales calls, sales planning, prospecting, appointment getting and presentation. Candidates are expected to attain targets for number of sales calls, account opened and volume of funds generated

#### BRANCH SALES ASSOCIATE

- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 1 year bank experience in Branch Operations

#### CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE

- Open to recent graduates of any 4 year business course
- Will be responsible in client/account servicing in the branch

#### SERVICE HEAD

- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 2 years experience as Branch Operations Officer or have handled both Branch Cashiering and Branch Accountant positions in any Commercial/Universal Bank
- Will be responsible for the over-all Branch Operations

### FOR HEAD OFFICE UNITS

#### ACCOUNT OFFICER (KALOOKAN & GREENHILLS)

- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 3 years experience as Corporate Account Officer in any
- Will be responsible in evaluating and recommending Credit facilities/loan proposals. Candidates will also market and manage borrowing clients' entitlements, collections and accommodations of credit facilities

#### ACCOUNT OFFICER FOR MORTGAGE

- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Will be responsible in account generation, evaluation, and recommendation of Real Estate loan applications
- Minimum 2 years experience in Real Estate Mortgage or Corporate Loans, ability to speak Chinese is an advantage

#### ASSET-LIABILITY MANAGEMENT OFFICER

- Minimum 1 year experience in Asset-Liability Management or Risk Management function of a Commercial/Universal Bank
- Will be responsible in preparation and analysis of management reports, such as interest rate, gap analysis and various simulations, monitoring and managing of balance sheet risks of the Bank given recommendations to matters effecting over-all performance of the Bank
- Candidates must be familiar with the Bank's business operations and various BSP rules and regulations

#### SALES TRAINING OFFICER

- Graduate of Psychology or any business related course
- Will be responsible in conducting sales related seminars and assist in other projects of Center for Learning
- Candidates must have at least 1 year experience as Branch Sales/Marketing Officer and must have the desire to teach and train

#### TRUST OFFICERS

- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 2 years experience as Trust Marketing Officer in any
- Having a network of clients will be an advantage

#### METHODS OFFICER

- Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering
- Knowledge in Process Analysis and Work Measurement
- With experience as project manager in a banking environment

#### ASSET-LIABILITY MANAGEMENT ANALYST

- Open to recent graduates of Accounting, Statistics, Economics or any related business course with high analytical skills
- Will be responsible in providing support to the Asset-Liability Management Team in preparation and analysis of management reports (eg. Income projection, industry analysis and board presentation)

#### BRANCH TRADERS

- Open to recent graduates of any related business course with high analytical skills and well developed communication skills
- Will be responsible for coordinating and dealing with Branches and Account Management Treasury related products like T-bills rates, Placements and currencies

#### DEALER COORDINATOR

- Open to recent graduate of Marketing or any related business course with well developed communication skills
- Will be responsible for soliciting auto credit applications from automotive dealers

#### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Minimum 1 year experience as Secretary
- Proficient in Windows application
- Must possess well developed communications skills

#### METHODS ANALYST

- Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering
- Experience in systems, time and motion studies as well as work measurement will be an advantage, although new graduates will also be considered
- Proficient in Windows/Microsoft Office application

#### TELECOM ENGINEER

- Graduate of BS ECE
- Minimum 2 years experience in PABX/KTS & line installation & administration; Proficient in SCS, wire communication & transmission; LAN/WAN operations; with knowledge in Win 95/98, MS Office, Outlook, Access

Interested parties are requested to send their comprehensive resumes to any of the addresses below with a 2x2 photo attached.

(POSITION APPLIED FOR)  
 Human Resource Management Cluster  
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- Willingness to work on a shifting schedule is essential

If you think you possess the qualifications and skills that we are looking for, kindly submit your updated resumé along with your web profiles **on or before 01 August 2001**, to the Human Resources Dept. 4F SMPC Bldg., St. Francis Ave., Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City 1550. You can also send it via e-mail at [hrd@man.ph.sykes.com](mailto:hrd@man.ph.sykes.com)

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Indicate if you are available for Full-Time or Part-Time.

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You are tasked with leading the Marketing Operations of the company by formulating its sales strategy, product development and market positioning. You are responsible for overseeing the marketing schemes of the company's national and international operations. You are also in charge of steering the strategy of the company's aggressive drive to capture greater market shares.

- Must have thorough understanding of the pre-need business or similar manpower intensive sales operation.
- Must be profit oriented, with sufficient understanding of finance.
- With extensive people network, preferably on nationwide basis.
- Must be good at 'reaching sales heads nationwide'.
- Must be very good in senior level strategic marketing and sales management.
- Must be articulate, impressive in communication skills, with pleasant personality and skilled in public relations.
- Ability to achieve pre-agreed sales goals and objectives.
- Has previous work experience with good track record in pre-need, insurance, or other similar sales and people intensive businesses.
- Must be at least 35 years old.
- Must have at least 8 years of management and marketing experiences in the pre-need or similar industries.
- Must be known to excel in sales production, manpower recruitment and sales organizational development.
- Previously with an USA or similar ministerial degree.
- Compensation package is open and includes over-all sales overriding commissions.

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You are tasked with managing the financial resources of the company. You are also responsible for managing the use of such financial resources, to make it grow even in these difficult times. You must have a lot of tact, being the comprimise of the company, to steer its financial director, maximize the use of its fiscal resources and sustain its operation.

- Must have worked in a medium to large scale corporation in an executive capacity.
- Must have performed excellently as a controller, treasurer and/or similarly top-level financial management positions.
- Must have good account or working knowledge of business investments, and marketing sales operations.
- Must be able to identify and evaluate new business opportunities.
- Must have the will and ability to move things happen according to approved strategic plan and programs based on the hard basis of the present economic condition.
- Must be able to make market analysis and propose new business strategies to enhance productivity of the company and its subsidiaries.
- Minimum of 4 years experience in a financial analysis or financial project evaluation environment.
- Preferably with CPA, MBA or equivalent educational background.
- Fluent English, strong in communication and interpersonal skills.
- Independence, initiative, creativity and assertiveness are also prerequisites, and must be very personable.
- Must be at least 40 years old with strong entrepreneurial inclinations.
- Compensation package is open.

#### MANUFACTURING DEPARTMENT HEAD

You shall take charge of the department. To plan and implement its efficient and effective operation.

- Must have relevant work experience in a supervisory or managerial capacity for a pre-need or similar companies engaged in financial services.
- Must be adept in verifying authenticity of contracts, generating accurate and timely reports.
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### HR MANAGER (Employee Relations)

#### Candidates should have:

- master's degree in Management and/or appropriate experience in personnel, training or general management;
- at least 10 years experience in HR or Training;
- proven skills in employee relations, managing people, services and resources;
- ability to manage projects and to coordinate activities involving several administrative units;
- excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

#### Reporting to the Director for Administration and Human Resources the successful candidate will:

- Manage employee relations matters relating to all staff other than Internationally Recruited Staff and Affiliate Scientists;
- Coordinate relations with the Council of IRRI Employees (CIE) as well as with other staff groups such as ALSAS, IFSA, and SINOP, and AIRES; Act as Management's main contact person with these associations;
- Coordinate relations with Philippine government HR bodies such as DOLE and the NLRC;
- Oversee the operations of the IRRI Medical Clinic;
- Coordinate the activities of the IRRI Appeals Committee;
- Handle administrative cases as they arise;
- Oversee all orientation activities designed to assist new staff arriving at IRRI;
- Produce various materials of interest to staff such as brochures, booklets, books and videos. In coordination with Public Awareness, produces Sandwina (newsletter);
- Organize training and development activities for NRS, in cooperation with HR Services;
- Direct a program of recreational, cultural activities, including the operation of the IRRI Club, organizing various sports events, scheduling staff sales and bazaars, assisting the IRRI Choir, organizing film showing and art exhibits, and related activities;
- Facilitate annual events such as the IRRI-UPLB dual meet, Recognition Day and the Christmas Party.

Qualified applicants will be notified by telegram, e-mail or by phone.

Interested applicants should send their application letter, resumé, transcript of records, three references, and a recent 2x2-inch photo no later than 6 August 2001 to:

International Rice Research Institute  
HR Services-National Staff,  
IRRI, DAPO Box 777  
Metro Manila  
Fax No.: 891-1292, 845-0606  
E-mail Address: e.revilla@cgiar.org

**GetAsia.com Philippines**, a US Incorporated company with offices in key cities of Asia. Our company, a leading digital media company and Internet solutions provider is searching for a creative, highly motivated marketer who thrives on out-of-the-box thinking and problem solving to fill the position of:

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- BS/BA Degree in any Marketing, Mass Communications or Business Management course; with excellent verbal, written communication and presentation skills.
- Minimum 3 years marketing experience, preferably in a media-related industry

Interested applicants, please email, fax and hand carry your resume before August 8, 2001.

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8741 Paseo de Roxas, Salcedo Village, Makati City  
Email: MarketingPH@GetAsia.net Fax: 752-5799

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Computer Software Literate  
Great Job Opportunity

#### Apply at:

1909 Richville Corporate Tower  
5th Floor Alabang Zapote Road  
Business Center  
Between 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

#### For interview:

August 2, 2001 only



### CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Multinational manufacturing business seeks

### FINANCIAL MANAGER

Senior Management team player, overall responsible for Finance, Accounting, and IT Department. The candidate must have at least 5 years of a similar role. Knowledge of SAP would be favoured

Interested candidates can send their Curriculum Vitae to:

HR MANAGER  
ORICA Explosives Philippines Inc  
7/F Guada Building  
No. 31 EDSA Mandaluyong City

### NORWEGIAN TRAINING CENTER-MANILA

is in need of a

### PR & MARKETING MANAGER

Who Are We?	What We Offer	What We Expect?
<p>The Norwegian Training Center-Manila of the Norwegian Maritime Foundation of the Philippines, Inc. (NMFPI) was founded in May 1990 for the purpose of ensuring competent training and to promote quality shipping.</p> <p>We offer varied courses from Ship and Cargo Handling; Management; Technical; Safety Courses; Welding; and Culinary Courses. Our faculty of Norwegian and Filipino mariners are trained to teach with confidence, aided by modern teaching aids and methods.</p>	<p>We are looking for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Graduate of Business or Marketing or BS Marine Transportation or BS Marine Engineering.</li> <li>2. Articulate in English language.</li> <li>3. Computer-literate specifically in PowerPoint software for presentations.</li> <li>4. Shipping industry or marketing experience preferred.</li> </ol> <p>We do not specify the gender neither is the age. If you get what it takes, then you are what we are looking for.</p>	<p>Overall responsibility of a PR and Marketing Manager is to promote NTC-M courses to prospective clients. Establish good relation and maintain information linkage with clientele. Update website as part of information dissemination procedure. Prepare newsletters for distribution to clients. Assist in NTC-M programs and projects.</p>

For applications, please contact either of the following: Address.

Capt. Ivar Thomasli, Director  
Capt. Eddie P. Berueda, Training Manager  
Ms. Blesila G. Tani-Salva, Executive Assistant

Norwegian Training Center-Manila  
NTC-M Building, Gate 2 TESDA Complex, East Service Road, Taguig, Metro Manila  
Tel. No.: 812-0742

Website: [www.ntcm.com.ph](http://www.ntcm.com.ph) • E-mail: [ntcm@info.com.ph](mailto:ntcm@info.com.ph)

Isis International-Manila, an International women's information and communication service organization based in Quezon City, is currently in search of the following to join its dynamic and motivated team.

### ADMINISTRATOR

She will be responsible for a) the development and maintenance of Isis's local area network and online resources; 2) the development, testing and promotion of alternative, "open", low-cost infocom technology amongst women communicators and activist organisations; and 3) the provision of user support to Isis staff, guests and key partners.

#### Essential Skills:

strong feminist perspective  
design, installation and troubleshooting of LAN cabling structures  
file server user management and administration  
install computer software/hardware applications for networking operations  
design, installation, configuration, troubleshooting of printing, email and mailing list services  
technical support for all UNIX, Ext2, UNIX, and Windows NT servers  
ability to communicate effectively in written and spoken English  
willingness to work as a team player  
Information Management or related courses or equivalent experience

Salary: PHP 30,000.00 per month

### Organisational Development and Administration Programme (ODAP) Manager

She is primarily responsible for a) the overall institutional management; 2) overseeing the general programme management and development of the ODAP and providing leadership to the team; 3) developing and overseeing the internal institutional and programme monitoring and evaluation system; 4) taking lead in developing institutional policies; 5) the formulation and implementation of the human resource development programme; 6) ensuring adequate check and balance of the financial system; 7) the overall management of the information system; and 8) fulfilling legal accountability of the organization.

#### Essential Skills:

strong feminist perspective and has been involved with the women's movement, nationally and regionally  
with at least three years experience in leadership roles at the executive levels in a development institution, preferably in women's organization  
strong writing and analytical skills  
experience in planning, monitoring and organisational development systems  
skills in managing finance, administration and information technology programmes  
strong networking skills  
ability to manage staff and lead the programme in all core activities and tasks  
capable in dealing with personalities and conflict resolution  
knowledge of Philippine corporate and labor requirements  
ability to communicate effectively in written and spoken English  
willingness to work as a team player

Salary: PHP 42,000.00 per month

### Technical Associate

She will be responsible for a) providing technical and administrative support to the Executive Director; b) ensuring that key institutional documents are in order and key correspondence are maintained; and 3) ensuring the visibility of the organisation through the development of publications, institutional documents and press releases.

#### Essential Skills:

strong feminist perspective  
proficient in preparing reports, compiling/organising data and developing publications  
ability to communicate effectively in written and spoken English  
experience in planning, monitoring and organisational development systems  
electronic communication skills, including email, mailing list and proficiency in MS Word, MS Excel  
willingness to work as a team player  
Bachelor's degree in Communication Arts or related courses or equivalent experience

Salary: PHP 21,000.00 per month

Interested parties may send their application letter, resumé and two reference letters by 13 August 2001 to:

The Executive Director  
Isis International-Manila  
#3 Marunong St., Central District, Quezon City  
Tel. No.: (632) 4353405; 4353406  
Fax No.: (632) 924-1055  
For inquiries, you may e-mail us at [isis@isiswomen.org](mailto:isis@isiswomen.org).

**DPC**  
Directories Philippines Corporation  
The *Yellow Pages*  
Directories Philippines Corporation (DPC) is the leading and biggest publisher of telephone directories in the Philippines. It is the official publisher of telephone directories for PLDT, Pyle, Datelcom, PLDT-Maratel, Cruztel, General Telephone System Inc., Philcom and Ixelcom, covering 24 direcciones. A Charter Member of the Asian Directory Publishers Association, Inc. DPC is the exclusive sales representative in the Philippines of the telephone directories of PCCW of Hongkong, Teckom Publications SDN BHD of Malaysia, PT Infomedis Nusantara of Indonesia, Direct Macau of Macau, GTE Directories (S) SDN BHD of Brunei, Directories Lmited (PVT) Ltd. of Sri Lanka, M & N Publications Ltd. of India, Pacific Access Pty Ltd. of Australia, BCE ActiMedia - M-E & Africa of Middle East, Edward H. O'Brien (PNG) Ltd. of Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Fiji Directories Ltd of Fiji, Worldcup Holdings (S) Pte Ltd. of Vietnam, NTT Directory Services Co. of Japan, China Telephone Co. of Shanghai, China and Korea Telephone Directory Co. Ltd. of South Korea.

DPC immediately needs quality candidates for the following position:

### ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- Male 21-28 years old
- College graduate in top 25% of his graduating class,
- Personable, self-driven, dynamic and aggressive
- Persuasive in oral and written communication
- No previous selling experience required

DPC pays above average compensation. In addition to basic salary, DPC provides allowances, commissions, incentives, foreign trips and other fringe benefits no other company in the industry can match.

If you fit the above description, see us for an interview, July 30 - Aug. 3, 2001, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM with your application letter, resumé, transcript of records and recent photograph.

**DPC**  
yellow pages

DIRECTORIES PHILIPPINES CORPORATION  
Corporate Affairs Department  
16/F DPC Place,  
2322 Chino Roces Ave.,  
(Formerly Pasong Tamo Ext.)  
Makati City  
[www.directoriesphil.com](http://www.directoriesphil.com)  
[www.yellowpagesphil.com](http://www.yellowpagesphil.com)  
[dpc@info.com.ph](mailto:dpc@info.com.ph)

Charter Member: ASIAN DIRECTORY PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

### A NEW GARMENT COMPANY needs you if you are:

- between 30-40 years old
- has pleasing and dynamic personality
- of good moral character
- has excellent oral, written and interpersonal skills
- computer literate
- resident of Quezon City, Pasig or Antipolo
- minimum 5-year experience in large scale garment factory

### One (1) SENIOR INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER

- graduate of BSIE or any related course
- highly knowledgeable in machine lay out, time/motion study and in efficiency rating

### One (1) QUALITY CONTROL MANAGER

- graduate of BSIE or any related course
- knowledgeable in international quality standards

### One (1) CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

- must be a Certified Public Accountant
- knowledgeable in all aspects of general and cost accounting

### One (1) PRODUCTION MANAGER

- graduate of BSIE or any related course
- proficient in inventory and production planning
- proficient in all aspects of garment manufacturing

Please send your resumé and latest 2x2 photo to:

Box No. MK-66  
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer  
Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue  
Makati City

### SAMIE INT'L. RECRUITMENT & GEN. SVCS.

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MALATE MANILA  
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ACCREDITATION NO. 59156-3

LEADING COMPANY IN SAUDI ARABIA  
NEED THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

### SALESMAN

Age 25-35; 5 years experience in softdrink selling/marketing; With professional driver's license; He should be x-saudi or Gulf in Pepsi Cola company.

### MERCHANDISER

Age 25-35; 5 years experience in softdrink selling/marketing. He should be college graduate and with professional driver's license; He should be x-saudi or Gulf in Pepsi Cola or Coca Cola company.

### REFRIGERATOR TECHNICIAN

Age 25-35; Experience in repair cooler and fountain machine; He should be computer literate

### INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIAN

Age 25-35; 5 years experience in factory; X-saudi or Gulf

### ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN

No less than 5 years experience in Audio/Video & other electronic appliance

### CAR ELECTRICIAN

Experience in auto electricals Japanese & American car; X-saudi or Gulf

### FURNITURE DESIGNER

3 years above experience in Hospital or Clinic; Graduate with diploma in Nursing and with license

REQUIREMENTS: Resumé with job description, Certificate of employment with 2x2 ID picture. Interested applicants outside Metro Manila can send their resumé to Samie Int'l.

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[www.jobmarketonline.com](http://www.jobmarketonline.com)



We are one of the country's premier companies engaged in voice and Internet-based Customer Relationship Management. We invite experienced and highly motivated individuals to join our organization for the following positions:

### Training and Development Officer (Code: TDO-Trng)

The Training and Development Officer will be responsible for the design, schedule and implementation of training courses and programs; review existing training methods and techniques, and its application and establish training goals as required. The candidate must have an extensive experience in the whole training cycle from conducting of needs analysis, formulation of modules. Implementation of training programs, and post-assessment/evaluation, preferably a Trainer from a Call Center or a Sales Trainer from a service industry. The candidate must have strong interpersonal skills and excellent in written and verbal communications; must be smart and aggressive. Persons between twenty-five to thirty years of age are preferred.

### LAN Tech Engineer (Code: LTE-Ops)

The LAN Engineer will be responsible for the installation, monitoring, maintenance and troubleshooting of computer peripherals and workstations. The candidate must have strong foundation in providing technical support (hardware/software); proficient in LAN/WAN, Client Server and Windows 2000 environment. The candidate must be a university degree holder in BS Computer Science or Computer Engineering and must be a Microsoft Certified Professional. Persons must be between twenty and twenty-seven years of age; must possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills; must be willing to work on shifts.

### Telecoms Technician (Code: TelTech-Ops)

The Telecoms Technician will be responsible for the installation, maintenance and troubleshooting of phone lines. The candidate must have at least three (3) years progressive experience in telephony, cabling and configuring phone system; must be a university degree holder in BS Electronics and Communications Engineering; preferably licensed. Persons must be between twenty-five to thirty years of age; must possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills, must be willing to work on shifts.

### Customer Care Specialists (Code: CCS-Ops)

The Customer Care Specialists will be at the forefront of our organization. They will be the focal point for all customer requests, and will be responsible for providing front line support and assistance to our clients. Our Customer Care Specialists are expected to analyze, diagnose and solve problems, with consistently high customer satisfaction rating. They should be courteous, customer-focused, and must be team spirited. The ideal candidates for the position are persons who are internet savvy college graduates; excellent communications skills; are between twenty and twenty-seven years of age, with excellent interpersonal skills; and are willing to work shifts. Previous experience in the customer relations management industry and can speak any foreign language such as Fookien, Mandarin, Cantonese and Spanish is a plus.

Interested parties are requested to submit their comprehensive resume indicating the position code to:

WEBSERVASIA  
Attn. Human Resources Department  
29/F IBM Plaza, Eastwood City Cyberpark, E. Rodriguez Avenue, Bagumbayan, Quezon City  
Email: [jobs@webservasia.com](mailto:jobs@webservasia.com)  
Fax No: 911-6854

"Real people for your customers all the time"



A progressive manufacturer of jeans & shirts  
Invites you to join their team.

#### INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER

- Male, age not over 30 years old
- With 1 year experience in Production settings
- BS Industrial & Chemical Engineering graduate
- computer literate
- willing to do field works
- Driving skill is an advantage (optional)

#### ACCOUNT MANAGER

- Male, age not over 30 years old
- Graduate of any business course
- Experience in managerial experience in selling consumer products, willing to go on provincial trips
- Good in oral & written communication
- Capable of motivating personnel
- Computer literate, Aggressive, honest & hardworking

Send your Resume, Transcript of Records & 2x2 latest ID photo to Einsco Company c/o HRD-Marssha Tower 1318 Franco cor Moriones Sts. Tondo, Mla. or call at tel. Nos. 2550351 to 60. Or e-mail us at [einsco@netasia.net](mailto:einsco@netasia.net)

FABER CASTELL

Is in urgent need of:

#### GRAPHIC DESIGNER

- Graduate of any art-related course or computer-related discipline
- Creative with keen interest in computer graphic designs
- Has good drawing skills
- Can deal with a deadline-oriented environment

#### MARKETING ASSISTANT

- Graduate of Marketing, Fine Arts or any related course
- Preferably with 1-2 years marketing work as experience
- Capable of handling multiple tasks related to his position
- With good written and oral communication skills
- With average computer knowledge

Interested applicants may submit their resume to:

**MARKETING DEPARTMENT**  
P.O. Box 1725 Quezon City Central Post Office  
NIA Road, Diliman, Quezon City 1157

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## IMMEDIATE JOB HIRING

### IF YOU ARE —

- Energetic men & women of at least 20-38 years of age
- College graduates of at least 4-year course from reputable schools & universities
- Individuals who have a good command of English and Filipino language
- Those who are ready to undergo comprehensive company training and can work at once.

### THEN YOU DESERVE THESE BID OPPORTUNITIES:

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### APPLY AT:

5th/F Suite 508 Manila Bank Building  
6772 Ayala Avenue, Makati City  
(Beside BPI Building)

### SCHEDULE OF INTERVIEW:

Monday - July 30, 2001 Wednesday - August 1, 2001  
Tuesday - July 31, 2001 Thursday - August 2, 2001  
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM ON ALL DAYS

Bring your comprehensive Resumé with 2 (2x2) ID pictures plus an extra ID.  
Be in your proper business attire and expect immediate interviews



U-BIX CORPORATION a leading provider of office equipment, furniture and related office services, is now accepting applications for --

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- Graduate of any four year- business course
- Willing to do field work to personally interact with corporate clients
- Service-oriented and personable
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We offer training and unlimited earning potential through competitive salaries, commissions, and incentives.

Qualified applicants are requested to mail their resume with photo and transcript of records to: (Code : \_\_\_\_\_)  
Recruitment and Training Group  
1331 Angono St., J.P. Rizal Makati City  
or e-mail us at [ubxhrd@j-next.net](mailto:ubxhrd@j-next.net)

### ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

(Code : AE)

- College graduates, not over 20 years old
- With at least one year field sales experience
- With good communication skills & ability to provide prompt and accurate reports
- Hardworking, assertive individuals who are looking for challenges



Stores Specialists, Inc.

Urgently needs...

### TRAVEL COORDINATOR (TC-001)

- Female, 26-30 years old, mature
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- With at least 1 year experience in handling travel documents
- With good communication skills

### SECRETARY (S-001)

- Female, 21-25 years old
- College graduate preferably in the Social Sciences
- No work experience required
- Computer literate

### ELECTRICIAN (E-001)

- Male, at least 25-28 years old
- Graduate of Electrical Engineering
- Must have worked as an Electrician or Maintenance Staff for at least 2 years
- Must have skills in trouble shooting of different kinds of office equipment

### NURSE (N-001)

- Female Nursing graduate, licensed
- At least 21-25 years old
- Preferrably with experience
- Computer literate
- Willing to be assigned in Alabang

### DISPLAY ARTISTS (DA-001)

- Female/Male, not over 30 years old
- Preferrably interior design graduate
- With creative skills in drawing, easeling, silk-screening, flower arranging, etc.
- Willing to work beyond working hours

### BEAUTY THERAPISTS (BT-001)

- Female/Male between 21-25 years old
- 5'7" and above in height
- With pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Graduate of Nursing or Physical Therapy
- With good communication skills
- Preferrably near Alabang area

### SALES ASSOCIATES (SA-001)

- Male/Female, between 21-28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- At least 5'2" in height with clear complexion
- Must have initiative, ability and sustained interest in selling
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Good in oral communication skills

### BEAUTY CONSULTANTS (BC-001)

- Female, between 21-25 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Preferrably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- Good in oral communication skills

### MAKE-UP ARTIST (MA-001)

- Male/Female/Gay, between 21-30 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Preferrably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- Good in oral communication skills

### OPERATIONS STAFF/DRIVER (OS/D-001)

- Male, not over 35 years old
- Must be able to drive a van
- Must possess a valid driver's license

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resume and recent 2x2 photo to:  
STORES SPECIALISTS, INC., Personnel Department, 4th Floor Midland Building,  
463 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City. Please indicate position codes.

## CIGI SIG

An excellent career opportunity in Finance is presently available for the qualified applicant. CIGI is in need of a:

### FINANCE CONTROLLER

(Code: FC)

#### Qualifications:

- Male or Female, not more than 35 years old.
- The position will be based in Manila.
- Graduate of Accounting from one of the top schools in the country, preferably a CPA, an MBA degree preferred.
- With an equivalent of 10 years experience in a multinational manufacturing and audit environment, at least 4 years of which in managerial status and the other years spent hands-on in all other areas of accounting, budgeting, tax and financial planning. Actual experience in financial statement preparation, consolidation, financial reporting and analysis are musts.
- Knowledgeable in special laws and implementing rules and regulations governing PEZA and Industrial Park locators.
- Must be knowledgeable on corporate and individual taxation laws, implementing rules and regulations.
- With excellent oral and written communication skills in the English language, analytical and able to interface effectively with all operating units of the business.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Must have had at least one year experience in financial package software.
- Proficient in Excel, Word and Power Point
- Willing to travel and a holder of a valid driver's license, with at least two years of continuous driving experience.

Should you possess the above qualifications, please forward a letter of intent together with your CV with a 2x2 picture to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION  
Consolidated Industrial Gases, Inc.  
CIGI Building, Sheridan Street, Mandaluyong City  
Contact Person: Bal-Vilma  
E-mail: [bal@cigi.com.ph](mailto:bal@cigi.com.ph)

## DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

A nongovernmental organization engaged in training & policy research is seeking a highly qualified & committed professional responsible for:

- research, training design & implementation
- developing project proposals, fund raising & preparing reports
- program supervision; and
- liaising with funding agencies, partners and networks

#### Qualifications:

- Advanced degree in social sciences
- With strong orientation/exposure on women's rights, governance & human rights issues
- Strong analytical skills & demonstrated ability to write well
- Able to work effectively in a small NGO & excellent networking skills
- Strong organizational & planning skills with demonstrated ability to follow through

Women are strongly encouraged to apply. Closing date for applications is August 06, 2001. Only short listed candidates will be notified. Please send letter (including expected salary) and resume, preferably by email to:

The Executive Director  
THE CENTER FOR LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT (CLD)  
Suite 1703 Medical Plaza Ortigas,  
San Miguel Ave., Pasig City 1600  
Tel. (632) 687-2083 Fax (632) 687-2082  
E-mail: [cld@cld.org](mailto:cld@cld.org)

**CITYSTATE INSURANCE, PHILIPPINES**

## MARINE UNDERWRITING MANAGER

This is a joint venture company with the Citystate Group in Singapore. We are looking for a Marine Insurance Specialist to head our newly set-up Marine Underwriting Department. Only qualified and experienced insurance practitioners need apply.

Salary is negotiable with attractive fringe benefits. Only short-listed applicants will be called for interview.

Please send resume with your recent photographs to:

**THE MANAGING DIRECTOR**  
Second Floor Citystate Centre  
709 Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City  
Tel. No. 637-1823

SUNDAY

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

# INQUIRER

MAGAZINE

July 29, 2001

Volume 14  
No. 21



René Saguisag, Raymond Fortun,



Oliver Lozano and Salvador Páñolo



Defiant Defenders

# Features

## Survivors' Tales

### Packing Prayers and A Pistol

by Alexander M. Young  
Fr. Cirilo Nacorda has been kidnapped twice by the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan. This time, he's ready for them

## Artwatch

### Beauty in A Different Light

by Joy Rojas  
A lensman's accidental technique produces a collection of meditative masterpieces

## Cover Story

### Courting Controversy

by Penne Azurcon-dela Cruz  
Three of the country's most visible lawyers reveal their personal epiphanies as they defend notorious clients with religious zeal

## Essay

### 'The Devil I Am'

by Rene A.V. Saguisag  
"No lawyer should say 'You are guilty; I cannot help you.'"

## Businesswatch

### Stylish to the Tips

by Tisha Alvarez  
How an erstwhile broadcast producer and magazine editor found a hands-on business

6

7

12

13

2

5

14

15

15

16

## Regulars

## Letters

### Noteworthy

In the Business of Dreams

### End Page

Death and Taxes by Jonathan Best

### Poetry

J. Neil Carmela Garcia

### Pinoy Nga! Noontime Show

by Jess Abrera

## This Week



Cover Story page 7

## SYCIP'S EXAMPLE

I read with fascination your article on Mr. Washington Sycip, and I would like to commend Alya Honasan and your entire team for selecting this feature for your cover story (SIM, 1 July 2001). I don't usually have the time to read much about the country, living a hectic life here in America, but on this Sunday morning here in LA and with a hangover no less, I was still struck by the powerful message of this article.

In these difficult times, when local Filipinos need a boost of morale and the country needs a strong positive media campaign here abroad, it is easy to forget that much of the power lies in each one of us Filipinos to give back to society and never think or feel that what we've given is enough. Of all of Mr. Sycip's brilliant opinions on democracy, political freedom, economics, taxation, education and generosity (all of which I agree with), the one that I or anyone can easily adapt in everyday life is his take on generosity or giving back to society, in whatever way you can. This is one trait that is very significant in this society, and which makes the US thrive as a nation. At my level, for instance, there are very few parties given that are not "for the benefit of" something. And definitely there are so many who support their alma maters and hospitals with endless donations, not necessarily with money (but that's the best) but with volunteer time, teaching, etc. Average, middle-class, or truly rich, everyone does it! In Manila, much is given to the Church, being a very Catholic country, and that's great, but really, the educational system cannot be overlooked, especially the public schools (and public hospitals), because this is our way of educating and uplifting the lives of the masses.

I love being a Filipino, and my education and life abroad have made me realize that to whom much is given, much is expected. My grandfather, the former Vice President Fernando Lopez, was a very spartan man as well, and I can truly relate to Mr. Sycip's story of being deprived of many of the fancier trap-

pings of wealth growing up but reaping the benefits later. My father would give the shirt off his back to a poor passing stranger. Both men left an indelible mark on me, but they were too private to share such lessons to many others. It is an invaluable lesson that young and old can really find consolation in. So thank you again, INQUIRER, for finding someone who could share this with the public. I know there are many others who have their stories to tell, and may each one eventually have their own "Giving Back" story in their lives. In the meantime, I am preparing my check for UP, my alma mater.

BECKY LOPEZ  
Westwood, L.A.  
bhlopez1@hotmail.com

**The Cover Image** Lawyers Rene Saguisag, Raymond Fortun, Salvador Panelo and Oliver Lozano on their controversial clients' right to due process. Saguisag's photograph by Roger Carpio; Fortun's photograph by Ernie Sarmiento; Panelo's photograph by Val Handuman; Lozano's photograph by Johnny Villena

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6

7

12

13

## Regulars

### Letters

**Noteworthy** In the Business of Dreams

**End Page** Death and Taxes by Jonathan Best

**Poetry** J. Neil Carmelo Garcia

**Pinoy Nga!** Noontime Show by Jess Abrera

2

5

14

15

15

16

### This Week



Cover Story page 7

### SYCIP'S EXAMPLE

I read with fascination your article on Mr. Washington Sycip, and I would like to commend Alya Honasan and your entire team for selecting this feature for your cover story (SIM, 1 July 2001). I don't usually have the time to read much about the country, living a hectic life here in America, but on this Sunday morning here in LA and with a hangover no less, I was still struck by the powerful message of this article.

In these difficult times, when local Filipinos need a boost of morale and the country needs a strong positive media campaign here abroad, it is easy to forget that much of the power lies in each one of us Filipinos to give back to society and never think or feel that what we've given is enough. Of all of Mr. Sycip's brilliant opinions on democracy, political freedom, economics, taxation, education and generosity (all of which I agree with), the one that I or anyone can easily adapt in everyday life is his take on generosity or giving back to society, in whatever way you can. This is one trait that is very significant in this society, and which makes the US thrive as a nation. At my level, for instance, there are very few parties given that are not "for the benefit of" something. And definitely there are so many who support their alma maters and hospitals with endless donations, not necessarily with money (but that's the best) but with volunteer time, teaching, etc. Average, middle-class, or truly rich, everyone does it! In Manila, much is given to the Church, being a very Catholic country, and that's great, but really, the educational system cannot be overlooked, especially the public schools (and public hospitals), because this is our way of educating and uplifting the lives of the masses.

I love being a Filipino, and my education and life abroad have made me realize that to whom much is given, much is expected. My grandfather, the former Vice President Fernando Lopez, was a very spartan man as well, and I can truly relate to Mr. Sycip's story of being deprived of many of the fancier trap-

pings of wealth growing up but reaping the benefits later. My father would give the shirt off his back to a poor passing stranger. Both men left an indelible mark on me, but they were too private to share such lessons to many others. It is an invaluable lesson that young and old can really find consolation in. So thank you again, INQUIRER, for finding someone who could share this with the public. I know there are many others who have their stories to tell, and may each one eventually have their own "Giving Back" story in their lives. In the meantime, I am preparing my check for UP, my alma mater.

BECKY LOPEZ

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**The Cover Image** Lawyers Rene Soguisag, Raymond Fortun, Salvador Panelo and Oliver Lozano on their controversial clients' right to due process. Soguisag's photograph by Roger Carpio; Fortun's photograph by Ernie Sarmiento; Panelo's photograph by Val Handuron; Lozano's photograph by Johnny Villena

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# Packing Prayers and A Pistol

**T**O TOWNSFOLK BRED IN THE MISTY HIGHLANDS OF THIS SOUTHERN "ISLE OF PROMISE," DODGING THE ABU SAYYAF HAS BECOME PART OF THEIR DAILY SURVIVAL TACTICS. THE BANDITS ARE JUST AROUND, BASILAN RESIDENTS SAY. SHORN OF THEIR CAMOUFLAGE GARB AND BANDANA, THEY LOOK LIKE ORDINARY MALL RATS IN ZAMBOANGA AND DAVAO, OR LAID-BACK MOVIEGOERS CATCHING THE LATEST ROBIN PADILLA STARRER.

*"I am simply trying to practise the calling of a Christian at this time and place, which is to fight against this evil group"*

Still, townfolk brush aside as a fluke the likelihood of being kidnapped by these dreaded bandits. Being kidnapped twice, they're bound to shrug off with a knowing smirk, is the height of comical misfortune, a fate reserved for born losers. Or for the truly charismatic, if you ask Fr. Cirilo Nacorda, who had the unenviable distinction of breaking bread with the Abu Sayyaf in the jungles of Basilan more than once. "They seem to like me a lot. *Palagi kasi nila akong hinahanap*," the soft-spoken parish priest of the St. Peter's Parish Church in Lamitan municipality says jokingly.

Fr. Nacorda, or "Father Loy" to friends and Basileños, had just returned from a meeting with military officials in Isabela City where they had a verbal tussle over the postponed training of some civilian volunteers he had personally recruited to join the paramilitary group CAFGU. But Nacorda doesn't only recruit armed civilian volunteers in Lamitan; he leads them.

In fact, he is also the spiritual leader of hordes of vigilante groups and cults in Basilan whose cryptic names are as surreal as the province itself. There is the Sagrada Corazon de Jesus, the Ilagas, Tadtad, Bulahan, Sto. Niño and Nacorda's own brainchild, the non-violent Concerned Basileños Movement whose membership ranges from

**A free man: Fr. Loy (with former President Ramos) after his release from the Abu Sayyaf lair in 1994**



**No disguise: Nacorda says he's tired of living in fear**

businessmen to peasants. Fr. Loy describes his Concerned Basileños Movement (CBM), with its 4,000-strong membership, as a "civil society" group, responsible for unifying both the armed cults and the non-violent sectors in the province. "The CBM has influenced many armed vigilante groups to shed their violent tendencies," he claims.

Fr. Loy, 43, the fifth child in a brood of seven, was born, raised, schooled, ordained, kidnapped and hostaged in Lamitan town. And although this clergyman has a Cebuano for a father and a Dumaguete lass for a mother, he says he is "through and through a Lamiteño." With his goatee and mustache, however, he can easily pass for a typical Yakan chap. His first brush with the bandit group Abu Sayyaf, which calls itself the Al Harakatul Al-Islamiah or the Islamic Movement, was on June 8, 1994, barely two years after he was ordained and a month after he became parish priest of Matarling barangay in

Isabela. Fr. Loy was snatched along with 69 other hostages, 17 of them killed while the rest were released in batches. Fr. Loy was freed exactly two months later, on August 8, reportedly after the government ransomed him for at least P2 million from the bandit group, then led by its founder Ustadz Abdulrajik Abubakar Janjalani.

His next encounter with the bandits was on June 2 this year, when the Abu Sayyaf, now led by Abdulrajik's younger brother Khadaffy Janjalani, raided the St. Peter's Parish Church and the Dr. Jose Ma. Torres Memorial Hospital in Lamitan. This time around, Fr. Loy decided to rescue himself. After hiding for hours in a secluded room, he sprung to freedom by leaping over the churchyard's fence and escaping to nearby houses amid a rain of bullets from the pursuing bandits. "I was so sure they would not hesitate to kill me this time, so I didn't take any chances," he reveals.

These days, Fr. Loy comes fully prepared to match and survive what he describes as "an evil in our midst." He packs a .45 caliber pistol in a black shoulder bag and says he won't hesitate to use the M-14 armalite rifle stashed in his closet should the bandits attack the church again.

"An eye for an eye: sometimes I tend to believe in that," he muses. "There have been cases here in Basilan when the principle proved to be effective." He cites how Christians were being killed indiscriminately in Isabela in 1999, until they decided to retaliate, killing two to three of their enemies a day. Given a dose of their own medicine, the bandits stopped killing the Christians, notes Fr. Loy.

"There is no contradiction between the Christian faith and what I do now," the priest adds. "Actually, if you study the prophets in the Old Testament, they really fought. They didn't just observe or take a passive stance of wait and see." He continues: "In fact, if you see the life of Jesus Christ, he was so involved in politics, in the economic and social aspect of his times. He did not just pray all the time. Remember how he intensely demonstrated his rage against the people who reduced the temple into a market place?"

A dialogue is out of the question, he adds. "For all you know, *nakipag-usap ka sa kanila*, you trust them, but... You have to be practical. You have to have your own protection. I am simply trying to practise the calling of a Christian at this time and age, which in this particular time and in this particular place in Basilan, is to fight against this evil group. Not against persons, because I have many Muslim friends and relatives, but against the evil things the Abu Sayyaf are doing. Aside from them, there is the evil system, the corruption, the injustices which are very rampant this time."

Such fighting words have riled the Abu Sayyaf so that they have raised a bounty for the priest's capture. Fr. Loy now goes to great lengths to conceal his identity. "I used to disguise myself. I would wear a hat, shades... I would even change vehicles and wear a military uniform," he reveals.

But no longer, he adds. "I don't like to disguise myself anymore," says Fr. Loy. "I want to let them know that I'm not afraid. I'm ready for them." He reconsiders, "Maybe I'm just tired of disguising myself and living in fear." His bravado isn't shared by his relatives, least of all his mother, the priest confides. "During my first kidnapping, she said, 'If I only knew this would happen to my son, I wouldn't have asked him to enter the priesthood.' She even asked the bishop to have me transferred to a parish far from Basilan upon my release. But I just didn't want to get out of Basilan," he explains.

Priesthood, he notes, "is not just a course. It is a calling. When I was still in the seminary I already accepted the realities and consequences of a priest's life. If you are going to speak the truth and stand for the truth, there will be consequences. You risk even your life." Even a third or fourth attempt to kidnap or kill him won't make him get out of Basilan, he says. "A father just can't leave his home at the first instance of trouble. What would happen to your wife, your children? You should be there to face the problems with them, or at least to give them inspiration. Even if I were not a priest, I should never abandon my people. Basilan is my birthplace. I was born here, I grew up here, and I love the people here, even my Muslim brothers." And after all, he adds, the threat to his life comes not from the bandits alone, but also "the military and other people who want to silence me."

What he fears most, says Fr. Loy, is "that the civilians in this place, because they have been so terrorized by this group, would eventually submit and lose confidence, hope and faith. Some might just say, 'For our own security. Let's not fight, let's not speak up.' That's what I fear."



But he admits: "We can't blame them sometimes. They're just victims. And among the most difficult thing to do is consoling victims. I couldn't even console myself as a victim of injustice." He rallies others in similar situations: "As Christians we are a people of hope. Surely there are obstacles along the road but we know that we can still find our goal ahead."

Not that he's immune to bouts of depression and restlessness, he admits in an earlier interview. He recalls how he felt so depressed during his first abduction when negotiations seemed to bog down that he lost faith in the government, in humanity, even in his own religion. Then a prayer changed it all.

He recounts: "One night when everything seemed to be falling apart, I decided to pray and told God, 'It's up to you now. I'm ready to accept whatever your plan is for me. It's okay if they kill me, but please give me courage.'

"I had a vision that night. I saw the eyes of Jesus for a few seconds. He was simply staring at me. And I told Him, 'Will You just stare at me like that and not help me escape?' Then the image faded." The following morning, he was ready to face death as the bandits escorted him from the camp. But to his surprise, they said, "Pader, laya ka na."

Fr. Loy says he realized that his prayers had been answered. More, he believes his being set free was a message. "God is using me as an instrument for His work so that in the future we can see the bright light of harmony in Basilan," he declares. "I may not see it before I die, but I know it will come."

The zeal of his fellow Lamiteños has inspired him to go on as well, he adds. He cites those who died while trying to keep the faith. "I really admire Fr. Rhoel Gallardo. In fact I feel jealous of him. It has been my desire even before I entered the seminary to be a martyr. I don't know why, but I feel that if I were to be faithful to Christ, I must be ready to shed my blood. I feel that the blood I shed would act as fertilizer for the faith of the people."

But he's not ready to play martyr just yet, says Fr. Loy, adding that he is more useful alive. "I still have a lot to do. I still want to serve God and my people. My best hope is that one day we will live harmoniously, both Christians and Muslims."

## Noteworthy

# In the Business of Dreams

Rossana Llenado has made a thriving business of helping people prepare for life's big tests - school admission tests, that is

**A** PASSION FOR EXCELLENCE, THE DESIRE TO HELP, THE COURAGE TO PURSUE A DREAM - THESE ARE THE INGREDIENTS BEHIND THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT OF ROSSANA L. LENADO, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF AHEAD TUTORIAL AND REVIEW CENTER AND NOW SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF THE PREPARATION FOR THE WORLD AHEAD PRE-SCHOOL, MORE FAMILIARLY KNOWN AS WORLDPREP.

Ever since she abandoned employment in the corporate world to establish Ahead in 1995, Llenado has been in the business of helping people achieve their goals. At Ahead, that means helping them get into the college or university of their choice.

"Ahead is actually a pioneer in the review course service, for while there are indeed older organizations in the industry, they were more focused on tutorials, not reviews," says Llenado of the organization she founded as a spin-off of Brain Train, which was set up 11 years ago in Los Baños, Laguna by her mother, Angelina Ladaga.

It all began when Llenado's younger sister Rogeline was about to take the University of the Philippines College Admission Test (UPCAT). Their mother prepared Rogeline and about 15 others by holding review classes in the living room of their own house.

In 1997, Llenado established Ahead's first branch in Kapitolyo, Pasig. The company has since become a leader in the industry, registering the highest "batting average" as far as entry into the UP, Ateneo and De La Salle college admission tests is concerned.

Whether through review or tutorials, Ahead's philosophy, as the company name suggests, has been about giving students a competitive edge. As with Ahead, WorldPrep's basic philosophy is that of preparing students for competition. It implements an innovative curriculum, with its classes conducted by competent and caring faculty members. Air-conditioned classrooms, top-of-the-line computer facilities, and a school-in-a-park environment make education at WorldPrep not only meaningful but enjoyable as well. Operations at Ahead have led to such spin-offs as Ahead Books and Things, whose most successful ventures have been the highly-praised Score Higher in UPCAT (and other college entrance tests) and With Honors, a valuable resource book for prospective college entrants published in cooperation with the Infoquest Research Group.

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A typical review class at Ahead



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MEMBER PANA Truth in Advertising

# Beauty in A Different Light

THREE YEARS AGO, FERNANDO SANTIAGO JR. DECIDED TO JOIN A PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST IN BORACAY. BUT UPON ARRIVING AT THE BEACH THREE DAYS BEFORE THE COMPETITION, HE REALIZED HE HAD FORGOTTEN HIS FILTERS, TOOLS WHICH THIS HOBBYIST WAS HIGHLY DEPENDENT ON. FORCED TO EXPERIMENT WITH HIS NIKON F60, HE TRANSFORMED BORACAY'S SUNNY SHORES INTO A DARK, DRAMATIC, AND ALMOST PAINTERLY PICTURE, WITH SILHOUETTES OF BANCAS AND LIGHT PEEPING THROUGH SHADY SKIES. "ALTHOUGH I HAD AN IDEA WHAT THE PHOTOS WERE GOING TO LOOK LIKE," HE RECALLS, "I WAS STILL SURPRISED AT THE WAY THEY TURNED OUT." THE CONTEST, BY THE WAY, "WAS CANCELED BECAUSE THERE WERE NO OTHER PARTICIPANTS. SO THERE WAS NO PRIZE," HE SHRUGS. "BUT AT LEAST THEY GAVE ME BREAKFAST."

"Some people think of religious things when they see my photos. Kind of makes you appreciate the creations of God"

Not to mention a camera technique which he applies in "Chiaroscuro," his first one-man exhibition at the De La Salle University Art Gallery in Taft Avenue, Manila. Using the same accidental adjustments (that is, "a very small aperture, so all you have to manipulate is the direction of the light"), Fernie's photographs range from the somber and shadowy effects in his Boracay, Manila Bay and Manila Yacht Club series, to the serene and heavenly hues in his Calaruega collection. This photographer is very specific about his shots; his favorite times to shoot are early morning and mid-afternoon, he likes places with water "because of the reflection so there's more light to work with," and he goes as far as bringing a compass to determine the best spot to click his camera. Still, he insists that beauty is everywhere. "One thing I learned in photography," he says, "is that you can see beauty even in the smallest, most ordinary things."

Actually, watercolor was what Fernie, 27, really wanted to get into. But when his paintings fell short of his expectations, he turned to



Boracay I (1999), above; Fernie with "Chiaroscuro" photos, left: "Beauty in the smallest, most ordinary things"



the medium most familiar in his home. As the grandson of an avid photographer and the son of a serious camera collector, Fernie says his passion for photography began at the age of six when he started shooting pictures of family and friends. Years of reading and self-study have helped, as has his appreciation for the works of Van Gogh, Picasso and Matisse.

Art lover that he is, however, Fernie isn't about to give up his day job just yet: teaching history at DLSU since 1996. "I'm really a liberal arts guy who's in pursuit of truth and beauty," he declares. "So I search for truth in history and try to find beauty in photography." Talk about the perfect balance: if history demands great analysis and thought, Fernie's pictures require no explanation whatsoever. "Some people think of religious things when they see my photos," he notes. "I didn't use to feel that way until I blew up the pictures. Now they look like meditations. Kind of makes you appreciate the creations of God."

"Chiaroscuro" runs till July 31.

# Courting Controversy

**T**HEY ARE AMONG THE PEOPLE WE LOVE TO HATE. SHAKESPEARE MUST HAVE BEEN ON TO SOMETHING WHEN HE DECLARED, "FIRST THING WE DO, LET'S KILL ALL THE LAWYERS" IN "HENRY VI."

"No matter the public perception, every person is entitled to due process, counsel and representation," says Fortun

Fortun: Treading "a fine line between being brave and being crazy"

Indeed, as cowering witnesses stammer out their stories, these men and women in suits curl their lips in ill-disguised incredulity as they hammer in their arguments in a lethal mix of logic, loopholes and Latin. No wonder the crowd cheered when witness Emma Lim drenched an expensive lawyer's legal contretemps with iced tea.

But what does it take to weather the slings and arrows of public contempt? Three of the country's most controversial lawyers tell us the circumstance behind the pomp and the Biblical weight of their sacred oath to defend due process. And while we may not agree with their choice of clients, we can at least take comfort in Dickens' sage observation: "If there were no bad people, there would be no good lawyers."

#### Faith and Fortun

**H**E IS, says lawyer Raymond Fortun, a closet Corysta. "I offered my life to Cory," he says passionately. "I was at Edsa 1 for four days and was stationed near Libis. After that, I was a speaker and panelist urging the people to approve the 1987 Constitution. My loyalty is to Cory and I think she knows that."

He is also, adds this 36-year-old UP Law graduate, a member of the parish choir and a church youth group that organizes outreach pro-

grams to orphanages, jails and old folks' homes. Fortun claims he is a labor lawyer at heart, taking care of this portfolio at the Fortun, Narvaza & Salazar Law Offices.

So what's a regular guy like him doing defending former President Joseph Estrada in the impeachment and plunder trials?

It's a question most people ask, including Batanes Rep. Florencio Abad, who recalls meeting Fortun when the Estrada lawyer was a brash law student actively involved in the 1987 Charter information campaign. "I don't know him that well, but he struck me then as intense, hard working and one who believes in what he is doing. So I was surprised to learn that he is now one of Estrada's lawyers." But then again, adds this Liberal Party stalwart, "If he's a serious lawyer, he would be into this whole idea of presumption of innocence, which means he's just doing his job."

That's exactly how Fortun puts it. "Trabaho lang," he says. "No matter the public perception, every person is entitled to due process, counsel and representation." Growing up in a house full of lawyers firmed up this conviction, he adds. The elder Fortun was a regional trial judge while his mother and elder brother Siegfried are also lawyers. His eldest sister passed the bar but has yet to take her oath.

Contrary to rumors, Fortun claims no big money is involved in the Estrada defense, "not even an acceptance fee, only expenses during the impeachment trial and time charges afterwards." Their firm, he adds with a straight face, was established "not for profit but to serve." In fact, adds this regular golfer, his new house in Las Piñas is so middle-class, water only runs at 2 a.m. "And I had to take out a loan at Union Bank to finance it."

Their firm, which had previously helped Estrada in some election cases, took this case, says Fortun, "because it is precedent-setting. It is the first and probably only time that an impeachment trial of a head of state will be conducted. We wanted a hand in the making of history."

The trial has put Fortun smack in the middle of media attention, "a learning experience," claims this guy who describes himself as "low-key but also *maluwag ang turnilyo* (easy-going)." Waking up at 5:30 a.m. for radio interviews and staying up until 1:30 a.m. for talk shows has become routine, he says. For sure, other people identify him with his infamous client, says Fortun, "but fortunately, Filipinos are very gracious and keep their negative comments to themselves. If at all, they tell me I'm a very brave person. Of course, I know there's a fine line between being brave and being crazy. Sort of like bungee jumping."

His wife, however, gets affected, he admits. "She was pregnant at the height of the impeachment trial, and she'd text me, 'Sasapukin ko yan!' every time a panelist would badger me in a talk show. So I'd text her back: 'Cool ka lang, Marna; kawawa naman 'yung baby. I can handle this.'" Fortun met his wife Lumen in a Catholic religious group propagating the rosary. A former bank employee, she has since taken early retirement to become a fulltime homemaker. The couple has three young children.

To page 10



INSULAR LIFE

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		₱ 100,000 hospitalization benefit	₱ 200,000 hospitalization benefit	₱ 400,000 hospitalization benefit	₱ 600,000 hospitalization benefit	₱ 800,000 hospitalization benefit	₱ 1,000,000 hospitalization benefit	₱ 2,000,000 hospitalization benefit
		₱ 100,000 accidental death benefit	₱ 200,000 accidental death benefit	₱ 400,000 accidental death benefit	₱ 600,000 accidental death benefit	₱ 800,000 accidental death benefit	₱ 1,000,000 accidental death benefit	₱ 2,000,000 accidental death benefit
AGE	MONTHLY	ANNUALLY	MONTHLY	ANNUALLY	MONTHLY	ANNUALLY	MONTHLY	ANNUALLY
20-35	₱ 101.90	1,154.00	203.80	2,308.00	407.60	4,616.00	611.40	6,924.00
36-39	121.90	1,380.00	243.80	2,760.00	487.60	5,520.00	731.40	8,280.00
40-43	151.90	1,720.00	303.80	3,440.00	607.60	6,880.00	911.40	10,320.00
44-47	193.90	2,196.00	387.80	4,392.00	775.60	8,784.00	1,163.40	13,176.00
48-50	231.90	2,624.00	463.80	5,248.00	927.60	10,496.00	1,391.40	15,744.00
51-53	277.90	3,144.00	555.80	6,288.00	1,111.60	12,576.00	1,667.40	18,864.00
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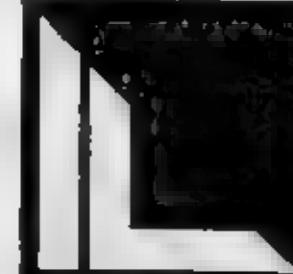
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The man who says he gets back at detractors by throwing a chirpy "God bless you na lang" at them claims he sees no conflict between his religious fervor and his defense of the man that Cardinal Sin had once warned voters against.

"The Cardinal was referring to Estrada's alleged lack of moral ascendancy: his lifestyle, his women, gambling, etc., not to his plunder cases, which we are handling," says Fortun. The church, he adds, "has the right to give advice on what is best for its flock, but then, Estrada's case has not been heard."

Although taking on Estrada's case has cost their firm some clients, like UST, Fortun shrugs off the loss. "We've had an influx of cases since then. Handling a high profile case means good name recall."

It also means getting to know one's client in his more private moments, and he is impressed, claims Fortun. "I have not met any public official as gracious as Estrada. When I come, he'd say, 'O, pakainin ninyo muna ito,' then he would even pull out my chair for me, and I want to say, *huwag, huwag pa, ako na po...* I feel so humbled by his humility," he gushes. But he is a lonely man, Fortun says of the former President. "He would have been better off at the city jail where he can socialize with other people and pass time quickly." To relieve his client's boredom, he would text him Erap jokes, laughs Fortun. "Kris (Aquino), who's my text mate, would chide me for that, but (Estrada's) a good sport. In fact, he watches 'Ispup' and loves how (Willy Nepomuceno) portrays him."

Echoing the defense's official position, Fortun says his client is innocent. "I believe it very firmly when Estrada says that people he had considered his friends betrayed him. Most of his supposed assets were in fact borrowed or leased and our documentation will prove that."

Although he believes that their most prominent client will eventually be acquitted of plunder cases, Fortun admits that public perception has been adverse. "People have the impression that when lawyers file all these motions, it's a delaying tactic. But they're allowed as part of due process." A live coverage of the trial, meanwhile, is not, he claims. "A live media coverage would cause the people to prejudge the accuse because the prosecution will present their case first. That's what happened during the impeachment trial so people went out and staged EDSA 2." That's his worst fear, he says: the molding of a public perception of guilt even before the evidence is in. "There are two sides to a coin, two sides to the truth."

It's a tough job, Fortun says, and right now, he'd like nothing better than take a break with his family "somewhere in the Philippines," except that "the Abu Sayyaf might learn about it and ask Erap for ransom," he laughs.

#### Man in the middle

**H**IS ROSTER of clients appears to be a rogues' gallery, if the tabloids' facile headlines were to be believed: Imelda Marcos of the serial plunder charges, UP professor Salvador "Bading" Carlos who was accused of sexual assault, convicted rapist-killer and former Calauan, Laguna mayor Antonio

Sanchez, Elmer Palicpic of the Lipa massacre case, police chief Roberto Lastimosa who is being linked to corruption, and former Ilocos Norte governor Chavit Singson of alleged illegal gambling ties.

So how does it feel to defend what many people might consider scum of the earth?

Atty. Salvador Panelo doesn't blink. "That's being judgmental because you still don't know the real story. There is always the presumption of innocence in any case." He continues: "Jesus came not for the good men, but for the sinners of the world."

Despite his clients' notoriety, Panelo maintains that he defends them out of principle and not money. "I'm a lawyer you cannot buy," he says. "You can't make me lie in court. If you are guilty, I will introduce evidence in your favor to lessen the charges, because the law allows for certain conditions that reduce the penalty. But I will not lie for you."

Truth is paramount, he adds. "I was a lawyer for Imelda Marcos, but I took on (broadcaster Ted) Failon's election protest in Leyte against a Romualdez. I'm for the truth. *Kung sino ang tama, ilalaban ko.*"

Panelo claims to have imbibed this fighting spirit from his father, the late Pantaleon Panelo, "a geodetic engineer in Naga and a mathematician who finished law when he was 54." The elder Panelo was also known for making a presidential bid twice: in '65 and '69. "He ran as a protest candidate," says his son. "He wanted to prove that although anybody can run for the country's top post, not just anybody can win."

The son, meanwhile was busy proving himself his own man: "I was with Raul Manglapus' Party for Philippine Progress when my father ran in '65, and I was for boycott when he ran again in '69."

A UP education fuelled the rebellious streak. "I thought then that the Kabataang Makabayan (KM) and the Samahan ng Demokratikong Kabataan (SDK) were too dogmatic so I organized the more moderate KMKP, or Kilusang ng Makabayang Kabataang Pilipino. Most of the members later became NPAs."

Panelo, the eighth child in a brood of 12, says he went underground when martial law was declared. "I was on the list of the Philippine Constabulary as an NPA organizer in Libon, Albay, but I was only involved in teach-ins because even then, I had a constitutional mindset."

He was on the wanted list of both the Left and Right, he claims. "I outwitted the military who didn't recognize me when I cut my hair. Previously, I went around with long hair, *camisa chino* and McArthur shades. Then I changed my look and managed to slip away."

This '71 UP Law graduate was an original member of Mabini (Movement of Attorneys for Brotherhood, Integrity and Nationalism, Inc.), taking up the cause of human rights in the late '70s with such legal luminaries as Sen. Jose Diokno, Joker Arroyo, Jojo Binay and Rene Saguisag. The relationship soured when the Aquino government took over and the Marcos Loyalists became the new target of riot police. "When the Marcos Loyalists were being truncheoned, the Mabini lawyers did nothing," claims Panelo. "I asked why and one of them said, 'Di puede, kakampi tayo ni Cory.' I said, you're worse than Marcos, because you pretend to be human rights defenders when you're not."

Panelo: "Jesus came not for the good men but for the sinners of the world"



Politics started taking a back seat in 1983, however, when Panelo met the woman who, he claims, changed his life. "Her name was Ma. Victoria Vera Piedad, which means Victory of True Piety, and nobody knows where she comes from, who she is." At the urging of a good friend, Panelo went to Pila, Laguna to know more about this spirit guide who, he claims, "materialized as a real person for seven years, from 1972 to '79." On the seventh year, he continues, the woman who became known as Mother, fasted for at least 100 days. "When her picture was taken, it was the image of Jesus that came out." Mother, he claims, still communicates through the ouija board, "but only Dr. Paul Domingo is authorized to hold the glass."

Thus did Panelo became a member of Bromoki, or the Brotherhood of Mothers, Kids. "I was skeptical at first and thought that the messages were a conspiracy between Dr. Domingo and the transcriber. So I asked a question quietly, why am I here? The message that came out was something I could not understand at first, it was too profound. Then I realized that it was about my life and I didn't even know this Dr. Domingo!"

Pila, says Panelo, turned him around "from revolution to love. *Para na akong gago.* I realized that my mission in life was to prick the conscience of those who lead this country and to pave the way for a spiritual government."

Then, in one of his meditations, it came to him how he could propagate his ideas further: through public office. "My wife was shocked. How could I run when I had neither a party nor the funds? I said, we don't need the money. Didn't the Bible say, 'Seek first the Kingdom of heaven...?'"

Of course, claims Panelo, he also had the inside track from Mother: "Magiging huling kabit ka," she told me." Sure enough, he adds, then Speaker Nicanor Yniguez of Marcos' Kilusang Bagong Lipunan called him up and asked him to be one of their senatorial bets, on the last day of filing of candidacy.

"What is important to me is to have a medium to spread my ideas and concept on love," Panelo adds. Love, he further, means not taking sides. "Kaya mahilig akong gumitna. During the 1987 Charter ratification, I was not for a yes or a no. *Nandoon ako sa or,*" he claims. "People say I'm mad, but they've been saying that since I was an activist so I pay them no heed."

Being in the middle allows him the luxury of having an objective point of view, says Panelo, and the room to defend issues and personalities from both sides. When people press him on where he really stands, he says, "It depends on the issue and on who is right."

Panelo is married to diabetologist Dr. Araceli Abrogina Panelo, with whom he has four children, aged 10 to 19. Three other adopted daughters are all professionals now, he says proudly, and rightly so. He took them in when his widowed sister was dying of cancer and worried about her young ones having nowhere to go. He volunteered to take them in, says Panelo, though it meant he had to marry one of his



three girlfriends posthaste to give the orphans a home. He and his wife then delayed having children to take care of them, he adds.

"I have no regrets," Panelo says of his colorful life. "I only wish Papa were alive when I ran for the Senate in 1987. He would have been proud of me."

#### Image and imagination

WITH his eyes narrowed to burning slits, his jaws clenched so tightly it gives one a toothache just to watch, and his words spat out between pressed lips, Marcos lawyer Oliver Lozano makes for a formidable foe on camera.

But it is all for show, laughs the guy who was once clapped in jail for contempt for railing then Rep. Roilo Golez in a congressional hearing on illegal drugs. It is a carefully cultivated image, says, this 61-year-old UP law graduate. "When media built up my name as Mr. Due Process, I had to live up to the monicker. I want to be seen as a fighting lawyer." It is an image that impresses a lot of people and attracts a lot of clients, he adds.

Even his responses are calculated, says Lozano. "If the hosts and panelists in TV talk shows are amiable, I am also amiable. But when they're rude, I answer back. *Tinatapatan ko sila.* You have to fight back to gain their respect."

But such beliefs have a steep price, sighs Lozano son, Wendell, 32, a medical doctor at Clinica Manila. The young Lozano recounts how, in 1986, he saw his father arrested and accused of killing Steve Salcedo, a Cory follower stomped to death by Marcos Loyalists for wearing a yellow shirt. "I saw him on TV, *nagpipiyano* (being fingerprinted), and I know he was innocent because he was here at home. It was so unfair I wanted to rebel and join the RAM."

Always, they worry for his security, adds Wendell. "On January 20 this year, he went to Mendiola to talk the riot police out of harassing the remaining Erap supporters," he recounts. "My brothers and I went along just to protect him." Sometimes even the name provokes adverse reactions, says the young medic. "I was once introduced to a woman patient as Dr. Lozano, and she said, 'Oh, I hope you're not related to Atty. Lozano.' I said I am, but that lawyers, like doctors, serve those who need them no matter their political color." Contrary to his public image, says Wendell, his father "has a great sense of humor and is very religious."

But it is the grim-faced Marcos Loyalist that people see in Lozano, and it is an association that this Ilocos Norte son is proud of. "I was first year college when Marcos became a congressman, then a senator. He was a brilliant, eloquent lawyer with a vision," recalls Lozano. When Marcos became President and the target of intense criticism, this Dingras native took it upon himself to defend his idol. Even his occasional criticisms were meant to shore up support for him, he adds. "I opposed some of Marcos' decisions but not to bring him

To page 15

Fate: "Where God put you, there you belong, even if it's a dangerous place"

# 'The Devil I Am'

THE "CONTROVERSY" YOU ALLUDE TO IS LARGEMLY MEDIA-DRIVEN.

ONE PRIVATE PROSECUTOR FOR THE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL NOW LAWYERS FOR MARK JIMENEZ. ANOTHER REPORTEDLY LAWYERS FOR A MARCOS CRONY. FORMER U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK AND SCORES OF OTHERS OFFER TO HELP MILOSEVIC. PEOPLE SEE THESE AS ROUTINE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTS. CAN YOU IMAGINE THE EXCITEMENT IF I DID ANYTHING LIKE THESE?

(Editor's Note: SIM invited Atty. Rene Saguisag, lawyer of former President Joseph Estrada, to write an essay on being one of the most controversial lawyers today because of his perceived "change in allegiance." Atty. Saguisag indulged us with this statement)

As a law cum laude grad, No. 6 among 5,500 bar examinees, and Harvard Law full scholar who trained in Arnold & Porter in Washington, ex-Cabinet member (spokesman of candidate and later President Cory) and ex-Senator, and IBP Lifetime Achievement Awardee (only President Diosdado Macapagal, and Chief Justices Andres Narvasa and Hilario Davide have been so named previously, and Uncle Jovy Salonga and I became the fourth and fifth honorees last April), I am not a bad lawyer, if not as "effective" as others. I play by the book. I may be hit for many things in my ever-flagging effort at self-improvement. But no one can credibly charge me with having crossed the ethical line. And I do work my butt off, which must be the reason why both sides on impeachment asked me to help last October within 24 hours of each other. I said no to both but when Erap was out of power and no longer the "overdog," I changed my mind after a lot of prayer and consultation.

I could have accepted my January, 1987 signed Supreme Court appointment and been four years senior to Chief Justice Davide (many more were more qualified, and my family could not live on government pay). I walked away from public life in 1992. FVR offered me a position thereafter. I declined. I headed an ad hoc panel formed by Erap to look into the Motorola and Centennial issues. Among my

clients have been President Cory, Cardinal Sin and Justice Palma — who encouraged me to test the ascension of GMA — and countless human rights victims. But, even if Mother Teresa (who has her share of detractors) were my client, I would remain the devil I am.

Mayor Sanchez was not my client in the rape-with-homicide case. Hubert Webb was, in the preliminary investigation of his case (but his trial was handled by others when I could not adjust to the nearly daily hearings, given other commitments). I dealt with Rep. Jalosjos' eligibility-to-run issue.

There is nothing wrong with any lawyer handling any case and accepting the constitutional presumption of innocence. No lawyer should say "you are guilty, I cannot help you." Our canons of ethics say our personal belief on guilt is irrelevant. A guilty person with able proper representation may get community service, probation, a short sentence or life (where it could be lethal injection otherwise; I oppose the death penalty, against which I filibustered in my time, abandoned by all save Senators Tamano, Enrile and Lina). Erap faces lethal injection. I remain opposed to the death penalty. If for this alone, I am not uncomfortable helping him.

Once praised in one oral argument by Supreme Court Chief Justice Enrique M. Fernando as "better than Tañada and Diokno," I find myself associated today with other fascinating mavericks, who have their roles to play.

Today the Saguisag law office praxis remains largely *pro bono*, or *puro abono*. I am *abonado*, not an *abogado*. As a human being, lawyer and Christian, I say if anyone needs help and/or has no one else, let's talk. I will continue to lose friends but if I cared for approval or popularity, I would not be what I am today. What I crave is a sporting chance for those the world hates.

As the perpetual outsider, I choose to take the road less traveled, marching to the beat of a different drummer. I am "controversial" because some feel my practice must be subjected to a referendum including how much I charge (which at times creates problems when making *entrega* to my wife as it



Saguisag: "What I crave is a sporting chance for those the world hates"

must be the *kulasisis* enjoying what rumor says I get, e.g. P9 M from Mayor Sanchez. It was zero but what a lawyer charges or doesn't is a private matter to begin with).

The *masa* comprise my kind of people. Decades ago, I made a conscious choice to try to help redress the balance in our society where the elite monopolize the best talents. Dulce and I left good jobs abroad and came home. I helped set up the San Beda Free Legal Aid Clinic when I returned in 1971. Later, I joined Ka Pepe Diokno's FLAG and subsequently, co-founded Mabini. Then, I got flak as a communist from Marcos, the military and the elite.

You are never so alone as when you are branded a criminal. If you need me, just call out my name, and I will be there, concerned over the despised least of my brethren, in pale imitation of Christ. If we can defend plant and animal rights, why not human rights? I learned *ora et labora* in San Beda. The Benedictine community, by and large, does not apologize for me. If Christ were here, he would visit Erap, who now attends religious services more often. Way to go.

I believe in certain things deeply, and fight for them fiercely, and hang the costs and consequences. If there's anyone out there I have not managed to offend yet, please raise your right hand, baby.

I hope to land on the right side of history. If I don't, I hope to be judged by the Great Scorer, not on whether I won or lost, but how I played the Game of Life; not on the testimony of a single incident or two, but by the manifestation of my entire life. On that basis, I fervently pray I do not land where my foes tell me where to go. ☐

# Stylish to the Tips

**“W**HEN I WAS A KID, I WANTED TO BE A BALLET DANCER,” SAYS SMART AND SASSY PAULINE SUACO. HARDLY ANYONE, AFTER ALL, GROWS UP THINKING THAT SHE WOULD ONE DAY BE THE EDITOR IN CHIEF OF PREVIEW MAGAZINE AND ONE OF THREE OWNERS OF NAIL SPA, THE FIRST LOUNGE-TYPE PLACE IN METRO MANILA WHICH CATERS TO NAIL CARE. ALTHOUGH SHE WAS ACTIVE IN HIGH SCHOOL — SHE WAS PART OF THE DRAMA GUILD AT THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ACADEMY — SHE STILL HAD NO IDEA WHAT SHE REALLY WANTED TO BE.

She ended up taking AB Communication at the Ateneo. There, theater continued to keep Pauline busy, being a member of Tanghalang Ateneo (TA). She was also part of the college student council.

After graduation, Pauline obtained her Master's degree in Media and Communications from the London School of Economics. She also did television work for “Che-che Lazaro Presents,” a travel show under Probe Productions, eventually becoming the show's executive producer. “The hours are — to put it mildly — hectic,” Pauline says of her days at Probe. After two and a half years of TV life, she decided that she needed a break.

It was around this time that she, along with her co-owners, began conceptualizing Nail Spa. “This is actually a case of something born out of a need,” says Pauline. “We were frantically trying to book a manicure and pedicure. We called all the parlors in Makati. They were all booked on a Saturday,” she narrates. Thinking that manicures and pedicures were hot commodities, she and her friends looked into the idea of putting up their own salon catering to nail care and found that it was viable.

The result was Nail Spa in Shangri-La Plaza, which Pauline co-owns with Anna Ricardo and Cherina Chilip. Unlike a typical salon, the Nail Spa has comfortable white couches, soft pillows, and classic cool blue walls. Anna explains that customers can choose from Express, Pamper, and Bliss, all having the basic cleaning and polish, with varying degrees of services. There are plain massages and reflexology,

Pauline Suaco holds court at the Nail Spa



hand scrubs and foot scrubs, bubble bliss and mudpacks for feet. They also sell hand and feet accessories such as bracelets, slippers and handbags. “Styempre, if you're going to have a really nice manicure or pedicure, you might as well flaunt it, right?”

Surprisingly, they have had quite a number of male customers since they opened in April. Teenagers come in, and the boys decide to get a cleaning and a massage while waiting for their friends. Some even come in on dates. “We could also customize a bridal shower,” offers Pauline. “It's a good idea, because now we are leaning towards the spa instead of the raunchy may-I-have-a-macho-dancer type of shower!”

It took over a year for Nail Spa to go from idea to actual opening. During that time, Pauline opted not to return to TV work, and decided to try working for Preview. “I was always flirting with the idea of working in fashion. In one way, it was just following what I was always interested in,” she explains. At first, it seemed as though graduating from Ateneo held her back. “It was one of those Ateneo things na, ‘Oh, you have to do something for God and country,’ stuff like that.”

She came to realize, however, that there are other ways of contributing to making daily life a little better. “There are days when very real people just don't want to think and they unwind and get a magazine. And they just forget all their problems for an hour or 30 minutes, the amount of time it takes them to read your magazine. You help them think of other stuff than things that really depress them.”

The job of editor in chief of a fashion magazine seems to have been tailor-made for Pauline, whom Cherina describes as naturally fashionable. It also allows her to keep up with the latest trends, which she and her partners can incorporate at the Nail Spa. Neither having a set 9-to-5 routine, Pauline's two jobs seem to go, er, hand in hand.

“I think I've been really, really blessed to have been given the opportunities, work-wise, that I have,” she says, “but for me it's just the beginning.” Despite having been executive producer of a TV show, being editor in chief of a magazine and the owner of her own business, Pauline still does not consider herself successful. She believes that having a title has less to do with success, and more to do with potential. “I think the challenge is to be able to live out the potential or to be able to do something with the position. It doesn't end with having a title. It actually starts there because you have to live up to it.”

For someone who has two jobs to hold down, Pauline seems to handle the inherent stress quite gracefully. Always appearing unhurried, she attributes this ability to manage everything well to her college days. Juggling academics, rehearsals that lasted until late in the evening, and her responsibilities as a student council officer became second nature for her. “It kind of sets a precedent for life, that if you're not busy, parang may kulang (something seems to be missing),” she relates.

With a personal style that is dictated by her mood, Pauline can easily go from casual to feminine to funky. Wearing sophisticated knee-length skirts on some days and jeans and halter tops on others, Pauline can look good in anything. Young, pretty, and talented, she can be anything she wants to be — especially a nail spa owner. ☐

Cherina Chilip

# Death or Taxes

American tobacco companies, which face monumental lawsuits and taxation at home, see the Philippines as a great place to do business

**F**ILIPINOS HAVE HAD A LOVE AFFAIR WITH TOBACCO SINCE IT FIRST ARRIVED IN THE COUNTRY WITH THE SPANIARDS IN THE LATE 16TH CENTURY. THE ADDICTIVE WEED SPREAD FASTER THAN SPANISH AUTHORITY, OR EVEN CHRISTIANITY FOR THAT MATTER. WITHIN A FEW GENERATIONS IT WAS BEING SMOKED BY IGOROTS IN THE MOUNTAINS, SNIFFED AS SNUFF (POWDERED TOBACCO) BY SPANISH GENTRY IN MANILA AND MIXED WITH BETEL NUT AND CHEWED BY MOSLEMS IN MINDANAO. FILIPINOS WERE NOTORIOUS FOR SMOKING ALL DAY LONG AND LETTING THEIR CHILDREN SMOKE PRACTICALLY AS SOON AS THEY COULD WALK.

Philippine soil was ideal for growing tobacco, and the quality of the leaves produced rivaled the famous output of Cuba. In fact, Cuban cigars became stale during the long voyage across the Pacific, so Philippine cigars were pre-eminent in Asian markets. The Spanish colonial government could not ignore such a potential source of wealth, and a government monopoly was clamped on the Luzon tobacco industry in 1782.

Tobacco could only be grown in designated areas and sold in licensed government shops. Armies of inspectors were used to count every plant and leaf to make sure farmers were not pilfering the crop. Naturally the people were outraged, and troops had to be called in on a number of occasions to suppress angry revolts.

On the whole, though, the government monopoly proved immensely profitable despite its unpopularity. For the first time in its history as a Spanish colony, the Philippines was able to balance its national budget without aid from Spain, and was even able to send profits back to Madrid. By the middle of the 19th century the tobacco monopoly accounted for more than half the national tax revenues.

Initially, almost all tobacco

cultivation in Luzon was restricted by the government monopoly to an area around Gapan, Nueva Ecija. Cagayan and Marinduque were allotted another 5 percent of the officially sanctioned harvest. Smuggling from the Visayas



Filipina enjoying a cigar circa 1920. J. Best collection

was difficult to control, and Negritos in the high, inaccessible mountains raised tobacco as a cash crop and sold it to *indio* runners who would smuggle it into Manila. The government processed all its cured tobacco in five plants in and around Manila. These were the first large factories to be built in the city. By the mid-19th century the monopoly employed over 20,000 women and girls, some as young as 14, to silently roll cigars and cigarettes by hand, all day, six days a week.

The government tobacco monopoly was ended in 1882 in an attempt to expand the market and increase production. However, by then the Spanish regime was in decline and the general economy along with it. When the Americans arrived in 1898 they realized the value of the tobacco industry and adjusted their tariffs to stimulate the market. Exports of cigars, cigarettes and leaf tobacco more than doubled during the first decades of American occupation.

When European explorers first discovered tobacco in the Americas in the early 16th century, it was proclaimed to be everything from a harmless intoxicant to an herbal cure-all. American Indians had apparently used it for centuries for relaxation, medicinal purposes and in religious ceremonies as other religions use wine and incense. European promoters claimed its effectiveness in curing everything from headaches to tumors.

Unfortunately, these medicinal qualities proved largely erroneous, and nagging doubts as to tobacco's safety finally erupted in a major confrontation. In 1964, the Surgeon General of the United States officially reported that cigarette smoking causes lung cancer. Since then tobacco smoking has been linked to many other forms of cancer, and also heart disease, stroke and emphysema.

American per capita consumption of tobacco has dramatically decreased since the 1960s due to an aggressive public education campaign and steadily rising taxes on cigarettes. In the Philippines the love affair with nicotine continues, with one of the highest per capita consumption rates in the world and some of the cheapest cigarette prices. Naturally American tobacco companies, which face monumental lawsuits and taxation at home, see the Philippines as a great place to do business. Phillip Morris has recently announced multi-million dollar expansion plans for its Southern Tagalog plant.

The nicotine in processed tobacco is highly addictive, much more so than many drugs such as alcohol, marijuana or cocaine, which are highly regulated or outlawed around the world. The United States should not be exporting this public health hazard to the Philippines and the Philippine government should not be encouraging it. So far the best weapons against the tobacco industry have been public education and taxes.

Remember the days of those highly desirable "blue seal" cigarettes, which were imported or smuggled in from the United States? Well, the blue seal was the tax stamp and part of America's slow but steady battle against smoking. The Philippines should do the same: double, triple, and quadruple the taxes on cigarettes and use the money for education and public health. Philippine tobacco companies would be up in arms as would masses of working class smokers but at least new tobacco taxes would do some real good in terms of public health for the poor. They might even help the government get out of debt as they did once before.

Comments welcome < endpage2000@hotmail.com >

down. I wanted the anti-Marcos forces to stop criticizing him." In the process, he helped in the release of some political detainees, Lozano claims, including labor leader Bonifacio Tupas. His court motions in the early '70s also helped roll back oil prices, he says grandly.

But it is his defense of Marcos that has earned him the admiration of the opposition, says Lozano. "The anti-Marcos groups told me, 'We admire you for your consistency, your integrity...you didn't get rich because of Marcos, nor did you get any juicy position.'" Money was never an issue, he claims. "People are saying that I'm getting a percentage of the Marcos wealth in return for my services. Well, why don't they investigate? They'd find out that I don't own a single land title. Why, I still live in my in-laws' place!" To send his four children to college literally meant "blood and sweat," he adds. Lozano has four children, two of them doctors, one a businessman, and the youngest a law student.

A confessed religious man ("Pastor nga ang tawag sa akin"), Lozano says he spices his legal pleadings with Biblical quotes and religious proverbs. He sees absolutely no contradiction between his association with the Marcoses and his avowals of spirituality, he adds. "I live a dangerous life," Lozano claims, "and sometimes I'm afraid. There's no one to turn to, so I pray. It works."

Religion, however, has little to do with his other choice of clients, among them alleged drug lords Alfredo Tiongco and Florencio Parena and Abu Sayyaf leader Galib Andang alias Commander Robot. "I've always been an advocate of due process, no matter who is involved," he says.

Lozano, the son of a washerwoman and a PC sergeant, also believes in fate. "Where God put you, there you belong. Even if it's a dangerous place."

Such faith — and the Marcos wealth — prompted him to seek public office in the last elections, he says. "I had a concrete agenda. When other people run for office, they keep making promises. But where will they get the money? Me? I have a concrete solution. Had I won, I would have helped Mrs. Marcos release the \$647-million Marcos deposit at the Philippine National Bank. I've talked with Mrs. Marcos and she said that Marcos' last will is sacred to her." The money, he adds, would go a long way to boost the country's economy and lift the sagging peso.

Oh, but he doesn't associate with thieves, Lozano bristles when asked about the possible source of the Marcos millions. "I did my own investigation and I found out that the young Marcos was into gold trading early on and was given the Yamashita gold to boot." Yamashita, claims Lozano, gave Marcos the map to the hidden gold when the young soldier visited the Tiger of Malaya in his hospital bed in Baguio. "Marcos got the gold and hid it, waiting for the 40 years proscription period to lapse to evade the claims of the original owners. Unfortunately, he was driven out at EDSA even before the 40 years was up."

"Now you'd ask, why didn't Mrs. Marcos release it herself? Because of complicated security arrangements. That's why Imelda is aching for reconciliation. It is only in the Marcos wealth where our hope for economic recovery lies. It's the only way to make this nation great again," says Lozano, sounding very much like the fallen leader he idolizes.



## Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera



## Malinche (For Courtney)

Many Mexicans continue to revile the woman called Doña Marina by the Spaniards and La Malinche by the Aztecs, labeling her a traitor and harlot for her role as the alter-ego of Cortes in his conquest of Mexico.

If indeed, as they accuse me, I have let you in,  
let the banner and the armor  
and the sword of you in,  
it is because into your world  
you first allowed me soft  
and ungrudging entry.  
My people do not see,  
in the sun-struck clarity of their dreams,  
I have merely returned the favor.  
Not to the vengeful conquering god  
with skin gleaming pale as bleached maize,  
but to the man whose random sing-song tongue  
I learned to hear, to trick and follow  
as it skipped and flitted through limbless words:  
the dull entanglements of an alien music.  
Lit up from its roots by hope, it trilled and  
lolled and shyly swiveled,  
and I began to see, as if through a curtain  
parting, the mist-borne crystal in your eyes,  
warm ocean in your mouth in which I craved to swim,  
for in its depths I may lie lost and drowned, but  
free.  
How strange, for it is only now I realize  
my shame, this wordless love for strangers:  
the delicate sandaled feet, their fitful fingers,  
the famished look in their open faces  
laved by an astonishment  
I cannot hope to share, unless I myself depart,  
set sail for the horizon hemming in my home.  
Every other sound you made told me  
I am lovely, your gaze a potter's callused hands  
drawing, stroking me to shape. In your clasp  
I seek the opportunity to come alive,  
as flat upon my mother's mat I am mostly dead,  
or at least mournfully suspended, pendant over my  
soul's  
dim basin. One day soon it shall be written:  
because of me an empire fell, a nation lost its heart,  
its memories of gold. Why should I care, in truth?  
On the proffered palm of a stranger  
my joy's flame-red fruit pulsed and beckoned.  
A child, I simply took and ate.

J. Neil Carmelo Garcia

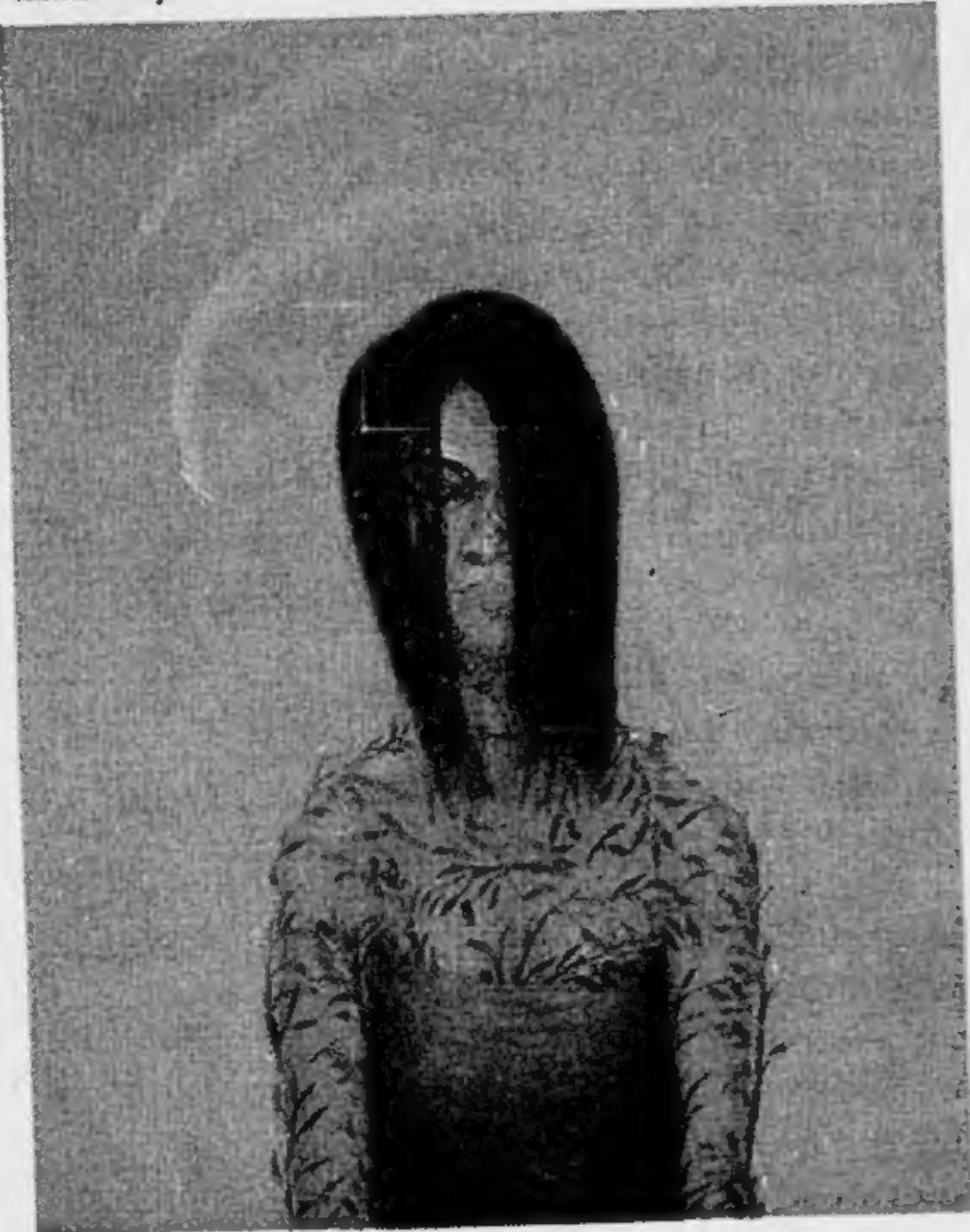
The Sunday Inquirer Magazine accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <sim@inquirer.com.ph>

## Art

**Basta Busto**, a multimedia exhibit by Rogger Basco of contemporary women in a sculptural show, until August 6 at Bulwagang Fernando Amorsolo, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Roxas Blvd., Pasay.

**Self-Contained**, first solo exhibit of Mark B. Del Rosario, runs until August 4 at The White Wall Gallery of Odd Manila, ground floor of Ang Bahay ng Alumni Building, UP Diliman.

**Triskaidekaphobia**, a two-man show by Chitz Ramirez and Eric Zamuco, until August 7 at West Gallery, Glorietta 4, Makati City.



"Still Life and Dreams" by Raul Lebajo, at the Art Center of SM Megamall, until August 6

**FI**, Mario Panis' first solo exhibit of pastel paintings at The Heritage Gallery, The Artwalk, 4th Level, SM Megamall Bldg. A, August 3-13. For details, call 634-2436.

The Alcove Photo Gallery presents R. Hidalgo Laurel's collection of 15 photographs depicting Binondo and the Children of Juan Luna until July 31 at the Filipinas Heritage Library, Makati Avenue, Makati City.

**Still Life and Dreams**, an exhibit of oil paintings by Raul Lebajo at the Art Center, SM Megamall until August 6. For details, call 831-9990.

## Music

The CCP Filipino Artists Series celebrates its 15th anniversary on July 31 at the CCP Little Theater with an exciting lineup of young outstanding musical artists led by bass/baritone Jonathan Zaens, flutist Antonio Maigue, cellist Wilfredo Pasamba and pianist Mariel Ilusorio. For details, call 832-2314. **Padi's Mindave** (Mindanao Avenue, QC) features Rivermaya in a special concert on August 1, Parokya ni Edgar on August 16 and Freestyle on August 22 and 27. It also invites the public to join the "New Singing Star Search" competition and the "Mindave Battle of the Bands." For details, call 414-4930 to 34.

## For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 16 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

## Onstage

Dramatis Personae presents August Strindberg's expressionistic drama on guilt, remorse and spiritual restitution, **Journey to Damascus**, on July 29, August 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26, September 2, 8 and 9 at the Pius XII Theater, Pius XII Catholic Center, UN Avenue, Manila. For details, call 412-0617 and 722-4205.

## Cinema

CinéLibre Film Society screens **Miss Congeniality** at the UP Film Center, Magsaysay Avenue, Diliman, QC on July 31, 4 and 7 p.m. sponsored by the UP Computer Society. Admission is free.

## Food

**Ultimate Unagi** festival features 15 tempting unagi (eel) dishes at Edsa Shangri-La's Inaho Tei restaurant until July 31. Complement your meal with sake wine, bottomless iced tea or drink or wine of the month.

**Inagiku** Restaurant at Makati Shangri-La offers diners the best Japanese Sake until July 31 featuring 12 premium and hard-to-find Japanese sake brands including two of the most expensive in the market namely Ichiko Shochu and Kubota Manju. **Harley Cat**, a combination of Absolut Kurant Vodka, Galliano Liqueur and pineapple and fresh orange juice whipped in ice, is Manila Diamond Hotel's cocktail of the month available at all bars and restaurants of the hotel.

**Sarimanok** is Holiday Inn Manila's cocktail of the month. A colorful infusion of green mango juice, honey dew, peach, Havana Silver, a dash of Grenadine Syrup and Blue Curacao, the drink comes with a colorful sarimanok stuffed toy.

**Sariling Atin** Merienda, delicious native delicacies such as ginataang halo-halo, kutsinta, biko, suman, turones de Manila, dinuguan with puto, pancit Malabon and Filipino style pizza available daily except Sundays from 3-5:30 p.m. at Grand Boulevard Hotel's Café Fontana.

**Eel Treats**, a delectable selection of exciting eel dishes available for lunch and dinner at the Pavilion Court of Holiday Inn Manila until July 31. For inquiries, call 526-1212 ext. 2503.

**Galleria Sunrise**, a blend of vodka, liquor and melon, is Manila Galleria Suites' drink of the month available at the Monet Bar-Lounge.

**C2 Restaurant and Bar** at the 5th level of the AIM Conference Center in Makati offers a relaxing atmosphere for after-office chitchats and the best of European and Asian cuisine. Indulge in soup dishes, salad creations, main course surprises and desserts, plus a variety of wines and beverages. For details, call 750-1010 loc. 2081.

**Magoo's** gift checks at P100 and P50 are now available online. Log on to [www.magoo.com](http://www.magoo.com) to order your gift checks and they would be delivered right at your doorstep. The gift checks are also available at all Magoo's outlets and can be used for dine-in, take-out and delivery.

## Atbp

The Philippine Society of Youth Science Clubs Inc. invites all elementary and high school science enthusiasts to join the science clubbing movement. PSYSC conducts annual interactive workshops, science camps and field trips. Affiliation is ongoing until September 30. For details, call 920-8174 and 920-9561.

**BluPrint Magazine**, the first publication to encapsulate the

finest in architecture and design here and abroad, features an in-depth look at the first 50 years of Philippine design in its second anniversary issue. Copies are now available at leading bookstores and newsstands.

**Liz Claiborne** (Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Edsa) has a special Bounce Back offer until July 31. For every minimum purchase, customers will receive a Bounce Back voucher worth 25 percent which can be used on their next purchase.

**The White Bicycle**, a group of young poets, will present a reading of its original poems on July 31 at Café Literati, 3rd floor, Goodwill Bookstore, Glorietta, Makati for the Goodwill Poetry Reading Circle. The reading session is open to the public. For details, call 810-5930.

**The Blue Eagles Gymnastics Academy** offers gymnastics classes for boys and girls at the Ateneo de Manila High School covered court, Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights, QC. For inquiries, call 411-9054 or 920-8657.

**The Goodwill Book Club** holds a book discussion today on the novella "The Dying Animal" by Philip Roth about obsessive love, sex in the academe and eros games, 1-3 p.m. at the Café Literati, Goodwill Bookstore, Glorietta, Makati City.

**A Life Shaped by Music**, a book that chronicles the life and triumphs of the Philippine Madrigal Singers under National Artist for Music Prof. Andrea O. Veneracion, will be launched today, 6 p.m. at the Main Theater Lobby of the CCP to be followed by a special gala concert by the Madz. For details, call 831-4015.

**Esprit** offers up to 50 percent discount on selected items like pants, shirts, skirts and dresses until July 31. Visit all Esprit shops and Cinderella outlets for your best buys.

**Milestones**, a bridal fashion show presented by the Fashion Designers Association of the Philippines at 5 p.m. today, Hotel de Intramuros, Plaza San Luis Complex, Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila. A dialogue with guest Fanny Serrano, who will share his expertise about weddings, will be held at 3 p.m. **Extraderm Plus** brings its **Alagang Expert** mobile clinic to Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati until July 31. Customers get free skin analysis and consultation from dermatologists. In addition, purchasing an Extraderm Plus set entitles customers to a free facial treatment.

**Nihongo Center** (825 R. Papa St., University Belt, Sampaloc, Manila) offers Japanese language courses: **Ikyuu Course** (Aug. 4-Dec. 8); **Intensive Course** (Aug. 1-Dec. 14); **Elementary Business Japanese I** (Aug. 20-Nov. 7). For details, call 735-3179 and 892-4916 to 19.

The Parañaque Dental Chapter invites all interested dentists to its 2nd **Hirit Scientific Seminar** titled "Live Show... Part II" to be held at the Asian Center-Skyline, Filinvest Corporate Center Alabang on August 12. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. For inquiries, call 809-1678 and 820-2356.

## X-manila

**Emotional Baggage**, a series of drawings by Fernando Escora until August 3 at Tam-awan Village, Pinsao Proper, Baguio City. The Japan Foundation Manila Office sponsors a public lecture titled **Reinventing Tradition in Japan** on August 3, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the University of St. La Salle, La Salle Avenue, Bacolod City. For details, call 811-6155 to 58 or (034) 435-2594.

**Fighting Cocks**, Raymund Malicay's 24 different paintings of fighting cocks ongoing until August 4 at Davao City's Genluna Gallery. For details, call (082) 226-2104.

**Harana sa Bayan**, a special project of the CCP, will have its outreach tours in Musuan Bukidnon (July 30) and Butuan City (July 31 and August 1). Guest performers are Nolyn Cabahug, Lisa Cabahug and Vladimir Valera. For details, call 832-3674.

The **SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE** welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at [sim@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:sim@inquirer.com.ph) or by fax at 897-1811.